THE ATHENÆUM.

No. 21. SEPTEMBER 1st, 1808.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

REMARKS ON HISTORICAL RELATIONS OF POISONINGS.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

EVERY one who is conversant with history must recollect numerous instances in which the death of eminent persons has been attributed to poison. In some periods, particularly, this notion has been so prevalent, that scarcely one is to be met with in a whole line of sovereigns who has been supposed to have died from the consequences of mere natural disease. Besides this vague supposition, several of the more noted cases of poisoning have been admitted into the number of unquestioned historical facts, although attended with circumstances which a little reflection would show to be highly improbable. I shall not here enquire whether the propensity to this belief be owing to a natural maliguity in mankind, a love of wonder and mystery, or any other innate principle; it is sufficient that it is one of the sources of erroneous opinion, to induce a lover of truth to submit it to impartial discussion.

It appears to me, that in judging of this matter certain rules or canons may be laid down, which might abridge the process of enquiry in each particular case, or even supersede such an examination as, from the distance of time, and want of authentic testimony, cannot now be satisfactorily instituted. The first of these that I shall propose is the following: Great crimes are to be regarded as among the rarer occurrences of human life; whenever, therefore, an event can with probability be accounted for without their aid, it is unphilosophical to suppose their existence.

I know not how far this proposition will be generally allowed; but for my own part, being convinced that there is more good, both moral and physical, than evil in the world, and that even in bad characters crimes abhorrent to human nature are not committed without a degree of repugnance, I cannot give an easy credit to such an impu-

tation as that of poisoning, unless I perceive a very powerful motive inciting to the deed. Even adepts in villainy have held the maxim that crime is too precious a thing to be lavished, and have therefore reserved it for important occasions. In fact, they have been desirous of doing without it, if possible; both to save themselves the secret pain of guilt, which the most hardened can seldom entirely subdue, and to escape the odium and danger of a detection. Certain characters in history are so blackened with infamy that every charge against them is apt to appear probable, and examination is thought superfluous. But many of those persons were as prudent as they were wicked; and the actions of a Tiberius or a Borgia require adequate motives, as much as those of the most virtuous of mankind. In several of these cases of imputed poison, a known constitutional disease, or old age, would soon innocently have effected all that crime could propose to do. When almost the whole royal family of France was swept away in the latter years of Louis XIV. men of understanding saw the cause in the enfeebled progeny of luxury, rather than in the chemical laboratory of Philip of Orleans.

Another canon is, that the supposition of poison is not to be adopted in order to account for deaths, the circumstances of which are totally different from the known effects of poisonous substances.

In common opinion, poison, like magic or any other mysterious power, is conceived capable of acting in any mode required. It can kill instantly, or at ten years distance—by the ordinary vehicle of food and drink, or by the extraordinary conveyance of perfumes, vapours, and topical applications—with known and customary symptoms, or with such as are new and unaccountable. But no physician or naturalist can admit such gratuitous assumptions. He will, in the first place, remark that all the poisonous substances which modern researches (so much more accurate than ancient) have detected, are referable to certain classes, distinguished by precise and definite modes of action. Thus, the corrosive, the drastic, the narcotic poisons, in all their various degrees of strength, are as well known by their sensible operation, as the classes of medicines with which they are connected, and in which, indeed, they are for the most part comprehended. I do not mean to assert that it is impossible there should be in nature deleterious substances whose effects are not reducible to the above-mentioned classes; but I would maintain it to be highly improbable that any such, in those parts of the world which have been the chief theatres of historical events, should have escaped the enquiries of naturalists and chemists. Further, it will appear that some of the imputed consequences of poison are absolutely irreconcileable to the laws of the animal economy. Thus, though it be possible that a noxious substance received into the stomach shall not only excite immediate disturbances, but shall lastingly injure the constitution; yet that, conformably to some stories, it should lodge weeks and months in the intestinal canal perfectly harmless, and reserve all its mischievous effects to some remote period, precisely determined by the giver, is, I conceive, an impossibility. Again—that any poison can be so volatilized

volatilized and concentrated as to kill by the odour communicated to a letter or a pair of gloves—or that any exists sufficiently strong and penetrable to prove mortal by infecting the caul of a wig or fruit touched by an envenomed knife—will scarcely be credited by a reflecting mind; for although the miasms of certain diseases are destructive in forms as subtle as these, it is inconceivable that any human beings could prepare a venom so exquisite without being themselves destroyed by it.

A very suspicious circumstance with respect to many stories of poisoning is the alledged efficacy of counterpoisons. The doctrine relative to these substances—that a previous use of them will fortify the body against the operation of any poisons that may be afterwards administered—is contrary to every fact respecting such things as we know to be really poisonous. One of the most famous compositions of the antidote class, that contrived for Mithridates by his physician Archigenes, has come down to our times; and it is certain that a person might take large doses of it daily for his whole life without being secured from the baneful effects of any poison, except, perhaps, opium, which is contained in the composition itself.

A number of the antidotes in highest repute have been the most inert substances in nature, chosen from their rarity alone, or some fanciful and superstitious notion connected with them, and such as could have no possible efficacy in rendering a deleterious drug harmless. Indeed, the whole *antidotary*, which was formerly a copious division in books of materia medica, is expunged from modern works of that class.

When, therefore, of two persons supposed to have taken poison, one is alledged to have escaped by means of a counterpoison, we may pretty safely conclude that neither of them was in reality in danger from that cause.

Poisoning and magical arts are common combinations in criminal charges. Indeed, the term *veneficium* in Latin signifies equally poisoning and sorcery. We know the latter to have been a fictitious crime, the creation of superstition and credulity; and it is highly probable that in those instances the poisoning was in like manner a false imputation, the forgery of malignity and calumny. It is true, the charge of sorcery or witchcraft has sometimes been well-founded; that is, practices of that kind have really been employed, in the belief that they would produce the mischiefs intended; and persons capable of such criminality would probably feel no repugnance at any other nefarious practices; but, on the other hand, if they confided in their magical rites, they would think an additional mode of effecting their wicked purposes superfluous.

As another rule in judging of stories of poisoning, it might, perhaps, be required in support of them to show by what means the poison could be administered; or, at least, to answer the objection often arising from the apparent difficulty of such administration. Kings and princes are usually surrounded with officers in such a situation of responsibility, or so much attached to their persons by interest, that it

it would be no easy matter either to engage them to concur in such a design, or for any one of them to execute it without the hazard of immediate detection. Voltaire may perhaps be thought to have displayed an outrageous degree of scepticism in questioning the offer made by the physician of king Pyrrhus to the Roman consuls, of poisoning his master, on the ground that the confidential medical attendant upon an opulent monarch could not expect a reward from the magistrates of a poor republic, adequate to the risk and certain loss he would incur by the attempt. I have no doubt, however, that physicians have often been falsely accused of this crime. They have, indeed, the easiest opportunities of administering a fatal dose; but they are the most closely watched; and in arbitrary courts it is a service of danger enough to give even an approved medicine of powerful operation.

It is very seldom that in historical relations of poisonings proof has been given of the fact from examination of the dead body. Appearances, indeed, are often mentioned as denoting poison, but these are sometimes of so marvellous a kind as to throw doubt upon the whole story: such is that of the heart remaining entire on the funeral pyre when the rest of the body was consumed. In fact, there is no change in the dead body induced by poison which is not also a consequence of natural disease, except large and recent erosions of the stomach and bowels; yet many positive judgments have been hazarded where this circumstance was wanting, and where nothing was seen but what was entirely equivocal. The detection of the remains of some poisonous substance in the intestinal canal is a demonstrative proof of the fact, which seems scarcely ever to have been attempted in cases recorded by historians.

If the preceding rules and observations are well founded, we shall be warranted in regarding with doubt, and admitting with caution, many of the most remarkable instances in which the death of eminent persons has been attributed to poison, especially where strong prejudices have prevailed against the supposed perpetrators, and the crime has been imputed as a thing of course, without any evidence of fact. The narrations may justly be more suspected when they relate to an ignorant and superstitious age or country, which have always most abounded in tales of wonder of every kind.

I am very far from supposing that human wickedness has not often, both in public and private life, employed this instrument in effecting its detestable purposes; but something is gained to the cause of benevolence whenever we are able to exonerate our fellow-creatures from any odious charge; and historical truth is at all events an interesting object of enquiry. I shall, perhaps, in a future paper apply the principles I have attempted to establish, in an examination of some noted instances in which credit has been given to the imputation of poisoning.

N. N.

PAUL PETROWITSCH I. EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

IN recording the unfavourable features which doubtlessly held the predominance in the character of the unfortunate Paul, it is to be deplored that most of his biographers should appear to have lost sight of those amiable qualities which shone forth in the earlier part of his hapless career. This, however, cannot excite surprise in the breasts of those, to whom it has been an object of lamentable observation, that the mass of mankind is unhappily prone to pass over in silence the modest virtues of contemporary merit, and to dwell with a kind of inhuman sportiveness on the vices and failings into which the weakness of human nature, or the impulse of human passions, may have betrayed the object (I had almost said) of their relentless persecution. It is this ignoble spirit and effervescence of "back-wounding calumny" which our immortal dramatist so happily stigmatizes, when he makes Cromwell to exclaim,

> **Men's evil manners live in brass; their virtues**
> **We write in water.**

Animated, therefore, by a desire to rescue the more amiable lineaments in the Russian sovereign's character from oblivion, and to render an act of posthumous justice to his memory, I hasten to communicate a cursory sketch, which personal investigation and a residence in Russia during the greater part of his reign have enabled the writer to trace, with a full conviction of the authenticity of the details on which it is founded.

Paul, more especially before his accession, took a peculiar delight in exercising the rights of hospitality, and giving a hearty welcome to his guests in the Russian mode. His table, supplied with lavish profusion, was constantly beset with officers. That fettering restraint which generally attends on royalty was there an utter stranger; every one acted according to the free suggestions of his choice, and the emperor was never more pleased than to see his guests eat with a good appetite. Instead of waiting upon him, he might rather be said to have waited upon them; for, it was an invariable rule with him never to rise till all had finished their meal. He exerted his utmost to prevent them from feeling any effects of the ill-humour to which he might have given way in the morning, and he carefully abstained from sarcasm. This, however, cannot exactly be asserted of his later days. He drank but temperately; at dinner-time partaking only of a little claret. Coffee and chocolate were his favourite beverages, and with the latter, indeed, he usually regaled himself on parade. Neither cold

cold nor fatigue appalled him; but he was singularly averse to chilly hands, so much so, that to prevent his own from becoming cold, his heiducke always kept several pairs of gloves warm within his bosom, that he might change them at frequent intervals. He never wore a fur cloak, but an undress uniform coat, which was lined on the inside with black fox-skin, and to the fashion of which he latterly paid more scrupulous attention than in the early part of his life. He always addressed his officers as equals, nor ever allowed himself, even in an angry moment, the use of that degrading epithet "*thou*," which is an idiom of the Russian language, and the customary distinction observed by one speaking to his inferiors. When he chastised any one, he frequently observed, "I feed you to no purpose."

On one occasion he said, "I was in monstrous good humour today; my powder magazine (meaning his fits of passion) never blew up." It was impossible for any one who was intimately acquainted with Paul not to be struck with his understanding, knowledge, and sound judgment. He was quite at home in all matters relating to cavalry tactics.

A long series of mortifications at length inspired him with animosity against his own subjects and the human race, and consequently added to the natural impetuosity of his temper. Eager to realize his plan of reformation, he determined to remove or punish all who opposed it: he betrayed on every occasion an inveterate hatred towards those who seemed attached to the old form of things; and an overacuteness of sensibility, first leading him to regard whatever fell contrary to his wishes as personal insult or ingratitude, at last rooted the seeds of distrust so deeply in his mind, as to engender an incessant dread of revolutions.

There were moments when Paul would indulge in thought and bewail his errors with bitter tears; there were others, when a sense of his own weakness would aggravate his spleen. The consciousness of failing frequently goaded him on to the commission of fresh offence, and reduced him ultimately to such a wretched state of misanthropy, that he held every one to be his enemy, and the amiable features of his character were irrevocably lost. Sensual enjoyments, to which he was once far from being addicted, now became his sole resource against the poignancy of reflection. But, towards the last period of his wretched existence, he seemed to be again alive to pleasure, and declared that he felt himself younger by twenty years.

Although Paul has been the means of rendering thousands happy, scarcely one is to be found who will acknowledge him as his benefactor—scarcely one seems disposed to pass that judgment on him which makes allowance for the universal weakness of human nature. Many of those, who owe their all of happiness to him, remember only the insults he may have offered them in an unguarded hour; though it must indeed be acknowledged, that the man who was one day fostered by his kindness, was perhaps the next subjected to the humiliation of his caprice.

What

What an awful lesson does not Paul's unfortunate career, and its melancholy termination, offer for the contemplation of those, to whom Providence has entrusted the earthly welfare of mankind.

DECIUS.

6th July, 1808.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FEROE ISLANDS.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

THE following account of the Feroe islands was written by a Danish clergyman who resided in them several years, and who had the best opportunity of making himself acquainted with their situation, nature, and extent, as well as with their productions, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants. As it contains many curious particulars very little known, and as no complete account of these islands has appeared since the time of Debes, a translation of whose *Feroe Reserata* was published at London about a century ago, and is now become exceedingly scarce, I trust it will be thought worthy a place in your interesting miscellany.

W. J.

It is conjectured, and with some degree of probability, that the freebooters who at one time infested most of the northern seas, first discovered the way to these islands, where they introduced sheep, in order that when obliged to put in there for shelter in the course of their frequent cruizes, they might always find a sufficient supply of provisions.

In the time of Harald Harfager, king of Norway, that is, in the ninth century, these islands were inhabited by some discontented Norwegians, who for a long time supported themselves by piracy and occasional incursions into their original country, Norway. There is some reason to believe that these people were first subjected to the Norwegian dominion by king Hagen Adelsteen, but they soon shook off that yoke, and maintained themselves in a state of freedom, till they were again reduced to obedience by king Magnus the Good; after which period these islands always belonged to Norway, till they became a part of Denmark by the union of the two crowns.

It is generally believed that the Norwegians who first established themselves in these islands gave them the name of Feroe, from the number of sheep which they found in them;* and I should readily subscribe to this opinion, were it certain that the Norwegians employed the word *faer* to express sheep. The term *Fero* is derived, perhaps, from *fier*, feathers; an article which, in consequence of the great number of sea fowl caught in these islands, is very abundant; or

* *Faer*, in Danish, signifies sheep, and *oe* an island. T.

or from *fiær* or *fiæm*, far distant: the last derivation is the more probable, as the people in the north of Scotland give the name of Feroe to an island not far distant from these; and to distinguish it from the Feroe islands belonging to Denmark, they call the latter North Feroe. But these are merely conjectures, which do not warrant us to affirm any thing certain on the subject.

The Feroe islands are situated in the North Sea, between the latitude of 61° 15′ and 62° 21′: in regard to longitude, the town of Thorsharn lies 19° 15′ 15″ west from Copenhagen, and 9° 47′ 45″ east from Teneriffe. They are eighty-four miles distant from the coast of Norway on the eastern side, and forty-five miles from the Shetland isles towards the south-west.

These islands are in number twenty-two, seventeen of which are inhabited. They occupy, in a direction from north to south, fifteen miles; extend in breadth, from east to west, ten miles; and contain altogether nearly twenty-three and a half square miles.

They consist of a group of steep rocks or hills, rising from the sea, chiefly of a conical form, and placed for the most part close to each other, some of which proceed with an even declivity to the shore; but the greater part of these declivities have two, three, or more sloping terraces, formed by projecting rocks, and covered with a thin stratum of earth, which produces grass. Close to the sea, however, the land in general consists of perpendicular rocks, from two to three hundred fathoms in height.

The highest of all the hills in these islands, and that first seen by navigators, particularly from the west, is Skælling, which lies in the southern part of Nordstromoe. Its perpendicular height is 400 Danish fathoms, or 2240 English feet; and though it is the steepest of all these hills, it is possible to ascend to the top of it. When viewed from the bottom, it appears to terminate in a long sharp point; but when you have clambered up to its summit, you find a pretty level plain covered with moss, about three hundred ells in length and a hundred in breadth. When the weather is clear, the whole of the Feroe islands may be seen from it.

The hills lie so close to each other, that the termination of the bottom of one is the commencement of the bottom of another, being separated merely by a brook or rivulet. There are no vallies of any extent between them: in the higher ground between their summits a few dales, covered with wretched grass, are sometimes seen; but these are not level, being interrupted sometimes by hillocks, sometimes by small rocky eminences, and sometimes by collections of large loose stones, which have the appearance of being thrown together by a volcanic eruption. On some heights there are found considerable tracts covered with rubbish, which seems to be effloresced matter thrown down from the rocks; and these tracts produce no grass, for the finer mould, fit for the purposes of vegetation, which might be collected in them, is swept away by the violence of the winds, or washed down by the rain and snow water. Some moist places, less exposed to the impetuosity of the winds, afford a scanty nourishment

nourishment to the *Kænigia islandica*, and the drier spots produce the *Saxifraga oppositifolia* and the *Statice Armeria*. But such is the smoothness and steepness of many parts of these hills, that no earth can remain on them; and, in general, the stratum of earth by which the rocks of the Feroe islands are covered is so thin, that it is sometimes no more than a quarter of an ell in depth; and in the vallies, where the land is arable, it never exceeds two ells.

The form of the hills is different, according to their situation, whether more to the north or the south. Those in Suderoe exhibit, in general, an evener surface; but those in Stromoe and Osteroe have on their sides several sloping terraces and hillocks, lying close to each other. These hillocks present nearly the same appearance; so that when viewed at some distance, particularly from another hill or eminence, they resemble a camp consisting of pitched tents; and when these hillocks are covered with snow, which is often the case when there is no snow in the lower regions, this resemblance is still more striking; but the case with Norderoe is entirely different: the hills are steeper, and of a more conical form; and they have rough ridges on their summits, beset with projecting paps and asperities.

The rocks in general consist of trap, almost every where intermixed with feld-spar, some glimmer and small grains of zeolite. The ridges of the hills sometimes exhibit clefts or fissures, which the inhabitants call *skaare;* and very often these fissures may be traced, in a straight line, through other islands, notwithstanding the interposition of the sea.

No certain traces of any crater or signs of volcanic eruptions are here to be found; nor did I ever observe any pumice-stone or lava in these islands, unless basaltes can be considered as belonging to that kind of production.

Besides the large collections of stones already mentioned, which are occasionally found in the hills, there are seen sometimes in the vallies single stones, three, four, or five ells in diameter, but in places where it is impossible they could have fallen down from the hills. Such stones are found also here and there at a considerable height in the hills, where there is no other eminence in the neighbourhood from which they might have rolled down. On the sides of many of the hills, and particularly on the lower projecting declivities, there are often found great heaps of stones, among which there are some large ones; but it may be plainly perceived that these have been thrown down from the higher projections, in the fissures of which the rain-water lodges, and when it freezes in winter it splits the rock by its expansion, and on a thaw taking place these fragments tumble down, and by their fall destroy the grass plats below. But the stones thrown down in this manner are different from those before mentioned; for the latter have two sides, which stand at a right angle, or, at least, they have one or more flat surfaces, whereas the former are in general round.

In some of the hills there are strata of basaltic columns, standing in a perpendicular position; in other places they have an oblique direction.

rection. At Frodeboe, in Suderoe, is a series of these columns, the bottoms of which are concealed, but their summits are all visible. It extends to a considerable height in the side of the hill proceeding north or north-west, but sinks down towards the shore in a south or south-east direction; and at the bottom of the hill these columns stretch out several fathoms into the sea, always sinking lower, till they at length disappear beneath the water.

In several parts of these islands may be seen lofty columns, bearing large arches, which support huge masses of rock; and under these arches there are large apertures or cavities six, eight, or more ells in length or breadth, the bottoms of which are covered by the sea.

There are also in some places narrower cavities, but these extend to a greater distance within the hills, and produce a very loud echo when a person calls out before the mouth of them. Some of these cavities, which serve as places of retreat for the seals, are of such length, that one can proceed forwards in them with a boat from thirty to a hundred fathoms. Others extend quite through the hill, so as to be open at both ends; and some of them stretch across a whole island.

In some small creeks at the bottom of the steep hills, or which form indentations in them, there are frequently seen tall rugged rocks, of a pyramidal form, some of them like towers, and at such a distance from the parent rock, that a boat can row between them. These rocks, to which the inhabitants give the name of *Drenge*, are of various heights, for some of them rise scarcely to the fourth part or half the height of the parent rock, while others rise to the same height. But these rocks are not confined merely to the creeks; some of them are found at the projecting extremities of the islands; others stand close to the sides of the hills, at the distance of a few fathoms from the land; and some so close, that the water can scarcely find a passage between them; but it is evidently seen that they have once formed a part of the coast from which they have by some means or other been torn.

At the bottom of the rocks there are sometimes seen immense columns, between some of which and the rock there is a vacant space towards the foot of them, while the tops, bent towards the rock, are united with it, as if they had been raised on purpose to support it and prevent it from falling into the sea. Others of them are connected with the hill at the bottom, and have their tops entirely free and disengaged from it.

The Feroe islands contain a great many streams and rivulets, but none of considerable size. At most seasons of the year they are all fordable, and may be crossed with safety, except at the time of heavy rains, when they receive such an addition of water that they become impassable. Some of them produce trout, which are caught after rain by angling for them with a rod and line. Sometimes the inhabitants kill them by striking them with a stick, or take them by groping with their hands in the holes under the banks. This kind of fishing, however, is of very little importance.

There

There are some fresh-water lakes also between the hills where trout are caught, but seldom in any considerable quantity. The largest lake, and that most abundant in fish, as far as I could learn, is in Vaagoe, to the north of Midwaag; it is about two miles in circumference. Leinum, and some smaller pieces of water in Nordstromoe, contain a few fish; and in the latter is found a species of trout which are red in the belly: on that account they are called red-bellies. Some rivulets and small lakes afford likewise a few eels, but they seldom attain to a large size. These are the only kinds of fresh-water fish in these islands with which I am acquainted.

As the hills are for the most part steep, the streams pour down their sides with great impetuosity, and some of them form small water-falls, which are very convenient to the inhabitants, particularly when they are in the neighbourhood of villages, as they afford them the means of erecting water-mills.

Some of these falls appear only after a heavy rain, and precipitate themselves from the bare rocks in places where, at other times, there is no appearance of them. If a strong wind happens at the same period to blow towards the rock, the water is dispersed and falls down in the form of small rain; but if the wind increases to a hurricane, none of the water falls down: the whole being forced up into the atmosphere, it assumes the appearance of a thick mist or smoke, in which a rainbow of the most vivid colours is sometimes observed.

The most remarkable water-fall which I ever had an opportunity of seeing in these islands is Fosaa, between Qualvig and Haldersvig, in Nordstromoe. It consists properly of two falls, one above the other, each of which, judging by the eye, for I did not measure them, is from twelve to sixteen fathoms in height; and the higher one projects so far from the rock, that a person can walk between it and the rock without being wet. An inhabitant of Qualvig assured me, that he has stood and seen trouts work themselves up this impetuous fall; a circumstance which, if true, appears to be very remarkable.

The water of the rivulets here is in general pure, wholesome, and well tasted, or rather has no taste at all. But there are two exceptions; that is, when the water becomes turbid after a few hours rain, or when a small stream runs through ground that is muddy or abundant in cupreous particles; for in these cases the water becomes noxious and ill tasted. Sometimes these small streams run into the larger rivulets which supply the inhabitants with water; but the quantity of corrupted water they contain is too small, when mixed with that of the larger rivulet, to produce any bad effect.

These islands abound also in springs, some of which rise from deep cavities in the fields, or burst out at the bottoms of the hills, and, making their way through the fissures in the rocks, flow incessantly, even during the driest weather. They are of two kinds, cold and warm; but the greater part of them belong to the former class. They produce excellent water, which in some places is said to be endowed with

with the property of strengthening the stomach and checking diarrhœa.

The most remarkable of the warm springs is Vermakielde, in Osteroe, which spouts out from a bank of earth in the neighbourhood of the sea. It is said to be so warm in winter, that if a limpet *(patella testudinalis)* be put into it, the animal will be separated from its shell. In the month of November, at which time I saw it, I found it to be almost milk warm; the bottom of it is covered with that species of moss called *Fontinalis antipyretica*. In former times people were accustomed to assemble here at Midsummer, partly to amuse themselves with singing, dancing, and various sports, and partly to use the water as a remedy for different disorders. It is still frequented by a few, but the confidence in its healing qualities is much lessened.

(To be continued.)

LETTER FROM A LADY ON FEMALE MANNERS.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

IF your readers are told that the following letter was written by an old woman, it is likely that those to whom it is intended to be useful will not be fond of reading or paying much regard to it; so, if you please, we will keep that a secret.

I have been very much grieved to see the many trials published in the newspapers of ladies accused of infidelity to their husbands. In some of these such facts are brought before the public, that I often feel ashamed of my sex; and in others, no defence is attempted to the crimes with which they are charged; so that, to my mind, every thing which they are accused of is allowed to be undeniably true.

Now, at the time when I was married, my parents, who were first acquainted with the proposals of the gentleman who afterwards became my husband, made very strict enquiry into the character and conduct of the gentleman before they mentioned his proposals to me.

It was impossible to see him often and not to be partial to him; but it was thought that I had behaved to him with more reserve than to any other person who visited us. For this there was some reason: his eyes were generally watching every thing I did, and he was always particularly attentive to what I said or did to my parents, to my younger brothers and sisters, to the manner in which I spoke to the servants or the neighbouring cottagers, and he more frequently disputed my opinions on any book we had read than those of any other person. He acted, indeed, like a spy upon my conduct; and though he was, I may justly say, a very sensible and well-bred man, which every body allowed, his scrutinizing manner was sometimes irksome to me.

When

When my father first mentioned his proposals to me, I then guessed the reason of all his former conduct and the watchful attention he had paid to me. I was then turned of twenty years of age, and having been so educated as to love and put confidence in my parents, as well as to respect them, (my mother was present) I told them my opinion without reserve, and said, though not without much agitation, that I certainly did prefer this gentleman to any and to all whom I had known; and, throwing my arms about my mother's neck, I replied, that being convinced my happiness was their only aim and wish, my conduct should be entirely guided by them. With all the circumstances which passed from this time to that of my marriage, interesting as they were to me, your correspondents would be wearied, though the recollection will ever be a source of great pleasure to myself, as must every thing which relates to the memory of my husband, with whom I lived most happily for sixteen years. With my distress on losing him I will not trouble you. I should in vain endeavour to describe it.

It pleased God to enable me to struggle through all my difficulties and this great calamity; and being left with six children, I applied myself with all earnestness and perseverance to their education, instilling into their minds a proper sense of their religious and moral duties, polishing their manners, teaching every thing I knew which was likely to be useful to them, and every accomplishment their situation in life could require. In short, my whole time was constantly occupied in my endeavours to make my children reasonable, useful, and amiable women and men. Of proper and moderate pleasures I never denied them a share; but I took care to instruct them, that life consisted more in fulfilling duties than in pursuing pleasures. In a word, I struggled hard to make them such as my husband would have approved, had it pleased God to spare his life.

When I was married, my education had pretty well qualified me for making a prudent wife and a reasonable companion, as well as an affectionate and capable mother, of which my own was a shining example. But there was a comparatively small circumstance which made a considerable impression upon my mind, which I will beg leave to mention. My great aunt was the daughter of Judge Pollexfen, of Nutwell, near Exeter, and she was married to Sir Francis Drake, of Beeralston, with whom she had lived many years very happily, and kept a kind of journal, if it may be so called. A copy of this journal was preserved by my dear mother among many other papers, like those preserved in most families. There were many texts of scripture, several little poems made on particular occasions, extracts from authors, and such like. To this journal, short as it is, I took a great fancy, and had a copy of it with me when I left my father's house. You may rely upon it as a truth, that it was written by that very lady, and now exists in her own hand writing. In this paper she first gives an account of her marriage with Sir Francis in the year, say, 1684, with the approbation of her parents and all her friends; and she stayed in her father's house at Nutwell for a whole year

year afterwards, which, whether it was the custom of that time, or whether it was the peculiar wish of that lady's father and mother, I cannot tell; but with the Judge and his lady, who were most worthy people, she remained. The first circumstance mentioned is the birth of a son, with other matters of less consequence. This journal she continued for many years, recording such things as she thought of sufficient importance, lessening, however, the number of her remarks; but she never fails from the first year to add—nobody can be more affectionate and kind than my dear husband is. At length she made no remarks, except, after the date of every year, for twenty years or more, that of the continued kind and good behaviour of Sir Francis.

This journal, short and imperfect as it was, always pleased me, and, when I married, shewing me that it was possible for a wife and husband to live many years together in a state of great happiness, it put me on thinking by what means I might best preserve the love and good opinion of my husband, which I considered as the first and greatest blessing this world can give to a married woman.

In reading the trials mentioned in the beginning of my letter, I noticed two or three things which astonished me. First, it appears that the education of young ladies is widely different to what it was in my younger days, especially with respect to religion, which, I fear, they practice superficially, and are ignorant of its principles. For this I am inclined to suspect their parents of much neglect, as well as the bad example often set them. I am yet persuaded that religion is of chief consequence both with regard to our present and future happiness.

Secondly, I have observed when I have been in company, that ladies set themselves more at liberty in the pleasures, as they are called, of the table. They seem to me to eat vulgarly and greedily, and drink without reserve different kinds of liquor. Would you believe, Mr. Editor, that I have seen some ladies drink three or four glasses of wine, nay, I am ashamed to say, some have gone as far as six or seven. This is bad enough; but you will be more shocked to hear what I have seen a young lady do, not more than 16 or 17 years of age: instead of waiting to be asked by a gentleman to drink a glass of wine, and accepting the invitation in a maidenly way, make no ceremony of asking any one to drink with her. Where there is such liberty taken in eating and drinking, I do not see for my part how the body can be said to be preserved in temperance, or the mind in chastity.

I am also sorry to say, that I observe ladies as eager in the pursuit of other pleasures, the nets for which are every where spread. Instead of complying with a request to make one in a party of pleasure, innocent it may be in itself, our young ladies come foremost and invite the gentlemen. Well and truly might Mr. Burke say, the days of chivalry are at an end: the ladies sacrifice the honour of the sex, and men of worth, respectability, and character, can scarcely be civil to them without encouraging folly, if not vice; between which, Solomon in his Wisdom made little difference.

But

But there is another circumstance mentioned in these trials, which astonishes and alarms me, as I consider an endless deal of mischief resulting from it, which was never thought of in my days, and which I hope none of my daughters will ever practice. This is, the custom of married young women receiving morning visits from gentlemen, and of sitting in rooms where they are alone and secluded from the public eye, or at so great a distance from the family, that if any rudeness were offered, they are hardly within the protection of the family. If this be allowed, there is no doubt but that young men of fashion will find a proper time of paying these improper visits, and contrive them so that their husbands shall always be absent. Fie upon it! I dread this custom, and think it the worst in the catalogue of all our follies have sanctioned.

If I thought my writing on this subject had a chance of being of any use, or met with your approbation, perhaps I might trouble you with another letter.

Sir, your very humble servant,

DEBORAH.

POPE'S LETTER TO RACINE.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

IN Voltaire's catalogue of writers in his "Siécle de Louis XIV." under the head of Louis Racine, he takes occasion to mention that poet's attack upon Pope's Essay on Man, and the interference of the Chevalier Ramsay for the purpose of conciliating them. He further says, that Ramsay wrote a letter to Louis Racine in the name of Pope, in which the latter seems to justify himself. "I lived a whole year with Pope (proceeds Voltaire) and knew that he was incapable of writing in French, that he did not speak our language at all, and scarcely could read our authors: it was a fact publicly known in England. I apprized Louis Racine that the letter was Ramsay's and not Pope's, and endeavoured to make him sensible of the ridiculousness of the cheat. I even informed the public of it in a chapter on Pope, which was several times printed in the life-time of Pope himself. Yet, since his death, the Abbé l'Avocat has printed this forged letter of Ramsay's, and has ascribed it to Pope in his Dictionnaire Historique Portatif."

The question now occurs, whether or not Voltaire's imputation be just? His argument drawn from Pope's ignorance of French goes no farther than that he did not write the letter in that language; but if he had written it in English and procured it to be translated, it might still be called his. I know not what Pope's biographers in general say of it, but Dr. Johnson refers to his letter to Racine as if it were authentic. Yet if no other authority exists for his having written such a letter than the assertion of Ramsay, by whom it was transmitted,

I confess

I confess I should very much doubt the fact. The letter itself, as printed in Louis Racine's works, is very suspicious. Pope is made to conclude with saying that "his sentiments are perfectly conformable to those of Paschal and Fenelon, and that he shall always place his glory in imitating the docility of the latter in submitting all his particular opinions to the decisions of the church." This sentence alone, in my opinion, is a sufficient evidence of the fabrication. It extremely well suits Ramsay, who was a disciple of Fenelon, and a kind of jansenist-quietist; but is altogether unsuitable to Pope, who was not at all the man to receive the extravagancies of Paschal and the mysticism of Fenelon, as articles of faith, or to regard it as a glory to submit to the decisions of a church, of which he was, at most, only half a member. For although Ramsay, in his letter to Racine, assures him that his friend Pope is "tres bon catholique," the assertion is belied by the whole tenour of his writings. Even on his deathbed he expressed indifference as to the ceremonies enjoined by the catholic church, and only submitted to them in compliance with a zealous friend. Ramsay further affirms, that Pope was offered by queen Caroline some considerable places if he would merely dissemble as to the religion of his fathers, and that he should be dispensed from taking the accustomed oaths; but that he steadily declined the offer—which is surely a groundless story.

That Ramsay was capable of what might seem to him a *pious* fraud, is manifested by his assertion in the same letter to Racine that Dr. Clarke, a short time before his death, expressed to him his compunction for having written his work on the Trinity; an assertion, the falsehood of which is indisputably proved by the declarations of the Doctor's friends and family. (See Dr. Kippis's edition of the Biograph. Britan.)

If any of your readers can throw further light on the question agitated in this letter, I shall probably not be the only person gratified by the communication.

I remain, Sir, yours, &c.

QUÆSITOR.

CASE OF MR. GRIGNION.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

IT is my custom, after reading the principal articles in your valuable Magazine, to give my mind a repose by casting a vacant eye over those papers that envelope it. It is a kind of *nap* after the gratification of an exquisite repast.

Yesterday I was pleasing myself with this harmless indulgence, when my languid attention was suddenly and forcibly arouzed by the name of *Grignion*, that met my eye in its careless wanderings—a name that I had never heard repeated, nor which had ever passed my lips

lips, but with sentiments of respect and admiration; and with which I had been in the habit of associating whatever was excellent and interesting in the wonderful art which he has so long, and so honourably professed. Imagine, Sir, my surprize (which could be only equalled by my regret) when, on reading through the advertisement,* I found him, in the last stage of his meritorious journey, in the progress of which he had so greatly contributed to the amusement of his fellow-travellers, to the enlargement of their ideas, and to the refinement of their minds.—Imagine, Sir, my surprize, when I found him *now* reduced to the necessity of soliciting from charity that aid which I felt he was entitled to from the independent and exalted claims of justice and gratitude! The tear of pity that glistened in my eye was involuntarily checked by a glow of indignation swelling my heart; and I could not help exclaiming with the poet of Scotland,

> Curse on ungrateful man, that can be pleas'd
> And yet can *starve* the Author of the pleasure!

But ye happy favourites of fortune! there is yet time for you to save this venerable Son of Science† from the iron gripe of poverty; there is yet time to smooth the rugged path he has been destined to tread—not indeed alone—but, alas! his companions are ill able to support him—they are the companions of sympathy, not of succour. To whatever side he turns his *now* languid eye, an object of the most tender solicitude presents itself—an aged wife, or a child afflicted by blindness! Parents! ye who look on a promising offspring with smiling hope and sanguine anticipation—ah! think what must be the reflections of this good old man, who feels the pressure of want hastening his dissolution, and thus rendering him less able to sustain his unfortunate child. How must the genial current of parental affection (the latest that flows from the human heart) be mingled in its course by the melancholy forebodings of her future fate—how bitter must her regret be, that she is totally unable to contribute to his support; nay, even deprived of the power of administering those little services so consoling to the filial heart. No charity, indeed, can remove *her* calamity, or prolong *his* usefulness—but it may soften the one, and render the concluding scene of a life that has been devoted to the cultivation of an elegant art, less gloomy and less appalling.

The appeal of *Grignion* cannot be urged in vain! On those who can relish the charms of his art—who can admire the wisdom of its system, he has a particular claim; and to the truly benevolent, misery itself is sufficiently attractive to secure the attentive ear and the liberal donation.

R. H. C——K.

London, Newman-street, August 1808.

* This advertisement appeared on the cover of the last month's Athenæum

† Mr. Grignion is upwards of 90 years old.

EXTRACTS FROM A MANUSCRIPT TOUR THROUGH THE COUNTIES OF GLOUCESTER, WORCESTER, SALOP, HEREFORD, AND MONMOUTH.

By a Gentleman of Literary Eminence—continued.

The county of Hereford is famed for picturesque beauty, to which the part bounding Shropshire has fewer pretensions than most others. On either side the road are square areas planted with hops, or orchards ploughed as corn-fields; mere plenty, however, is not always picturesque. Philips's didactic poem on Cider, the best imitation of Virgil's Georgics in any language, and of Milton's style in our own, has rendered this district classic ground.* For this species of wine (if wine it can be called) England is peculiarly famous, though not exclusively, as cider is produced in the northern parts of France and the Netherlands, and even in Biscay, a province of Spain.

These formal inclosures are unusually fertile, and interesting for their consequences rather than their present appearance. The farms in the flat country between Florence and Leghorn afforded me a similar gratification, where the same plot of ground furnishes corn, wine, and oil. The olives, planted upon a mound, form the inclosure and support the vines, whilst the area is left free for the growth of any kind of grain. In Herefordshire the arable lands are regular groves of ugly trees.

Before we reached Berrington Park, which Mr. Harley has embellished according to the principles of the modern landscape-gardeners, we had a first view of the Holy Mount in Radnorshire, which is cloven at the summit, and has many traditions belonging to it. Singular as may be its form, it is but a miniature resemblance of many under which I passed, or viewed at a distance, in the Tyrol, where the mountains take a more capricious outline than amongst the Appennines. In the exact front is Leominster tower, deeply embosomed, to which town our road was conducted through an avenue of lofty elms, continued for the space of a mile. The church and priory, originally appendant on the abbey of Reading, we passed at a small distance on the right hand.

Leominster is a very old and badly-built town, which has been from time immemorial a crowded mart for wool, of a quality more excellent than that of many kinds imported from Spain. Upon this account it has deserved the poetic praises both of Drayton and Philips. It was very anciently celebrated in Barclay's Eclogues, 1550.

> England hath clothe, and Bordeus hath store of wine,
> Cornewalle hath tinne, and Lymster wolles fine. *Ecl.* iv.

Lempster's

* Soon after its publication it was translated into Italian by Count Magalotti, in a poem, entitled, "Il Sidro," and published at Florence. The late edition

Lempster's ore
That with the silk-worm's web for fineness doth compare.
Poly-Olb. Song vii.

—Can Tmolus' head
Vie with our saffron odours? or the fleece
Bœtic or finest Tarentine, compare
With Lempster's silken wool? *Cider B.* i. 581.

Two miles from Leominster led us through level hop-grounds and orchards, till the sweet rural glade at the bottom of Dinmore-hill made us ample amends. At the bridge over the Lugg we were invited to visit the curious old mansion at Hampton Court, now the residence of the Earl of Essex. It lies in a lawn, surrounded by easy acclivities and wood-lands. The façade of the house has one central square tower; its deeply-embattled parapet projects upon brackets, and interstices are opened, through which assailants might be annoyed, such as are invariably frequent in Tuscany and other parts of the continent. There are likewise two smaller at each end, and connected with one of them is the gothic window of the chapel. Opposite the great entrance, after passing a court, is a porch, and the surrounding parapet is very deeply embattled; but the effects of the whole is spoiled by the number of modern square-headed sashes by which the place of the original lattices has been usurped. Campbell, the architect, was first employed to give these venerable walls a modern air, and succeeded to a certain degree. He has published the plan in the Vitruvius Britannicus. In the apartments nothing of ancient English architecture is to be discovered, for the internal alterations have been so injudicious and frequent, as to have left no characteristic vestige of what the rooms once were.

Sir Rowland Lenthall, a courtier and favourite of Henry IV. having obtained large grants of land from him in this neighbourhood, commenced this building under his immediate auspices, for he is said to have laid the first stone. Another tradition relates, that he was enabled to complete this house by the ransoms of the prisoners he had taken in the battle of Agincourt. In front only any appearance of the original building remains, which may be considered as a fine specimen of a structure of such antiquity.

The scenery around this mansion is beautiful in a high degree. It was, perhaps, more characteristic before the grand avenues of lime-trees were sacrificed to modern taste, for the central tower with the principal gateway formed at that time a bold termination to the vista.

We now ascended Dinmore-hill, which offers a very rich and extensive prospect, and having reached the other side, we had on our right Burghope-house, the former seat of the Goodyere's, an instance of

edition of Philips's Cyder, by the Rev. C. Dunstan, is accompanied with an able commentary and entertaining notes.

of the peculiarities of the style of Elizabeth and James I. with bay windows and pediments. In front were seen the villages of Wellington, Marden, and Holmer; but the weather proving unfavourable, we could not judge accurately of any object till we reached Hereford.

The cities and great towns in this district have all nearly the same kind and advantage of situation. A regular descent from abrupt ground above the winding river seems to have directed the choice of the first founders. Of such a site the city of Hereford is possessed, yet, from high antiquity and want of space in the streets, it needs in a great degree the aid of modern improvement. The castle walks are formed upon the bulwarks, and hang very pleasantly over the Wye, commanding the adjacent country, but especially a side-view of the cathedral. The boulevards, so frequent in Germany and the Low Countries, are so similar to each other, that it would be difficult to give to any of them the preference. They are always spacious and planted with double rows of trees, incircling the town of which the bird's-eye view is extremely curious. To a traveller restricted for time, to walk round the boulevards or to ascend the highest tower will give a more accurate idea than traversing the narrow streets for a month. English towns have a general superiority over those on the continent, but the boulevards are a luxury in which we are deficient; the city walls at Chester are those only which can claim any comparison.

The cathedral is of the improved Norman in its chief parts, by which is understood the more ornamented sort of that architecture in its second æra. Mr. Bentham, in the able sketch prefixed to his account of Ely (supposed to have been written by Gray, whose knowledge of antiquities was not the least of his eminent talents) cites the outside of the central tower as a complete specimen of the nail-head moulding, which, having been lately made to look as if new, has acquired a glaring and false effect. In 1786, the tower finishing the western front, which Dugdale thought of sufficient merit to delineate in his Monasticon, suddenly fell to the ground, destroying the greater part of the nave. Mr. Wyatt is the architect of the new fabric, who had two circumstances to contend with equally unfavourable to the credit of an architect. The first was the limitation of the sum to be expended, and the other the impracticability of the subject, not lessened, certainly, by the opinions of others, by which his own was over-ruled. The ancient fabric was of what is now generally termed Saxon architecture.

To those who are in search of sepulchral monuments, this cathedral still offers an ample display; and the shrines of numerous bishops in succession afford proofs of the progress and variety of ancient art. These are of effigies only; for the brasses, though of so trifling a value, were torn from the slabs when the rebuilding took place, and were sold by order of the chapter.

In the library, formerly our Lady's chapel behind the choir, are some fresco paintings of the age of the building, which is that of the Edwards, when it is known that Italian artists were encouraged in this country,

country, and that from them the monks acquired the arts of embellishment which they applied to their own churches. There were probably some of these paintings in England, which, when in a perfect state, would not have been unworthy the pencil of Cimabue or Ghiotto. The celebrated works of these masters which I saw at Pisa and Florence have suffered so much from time, that their former excellence must now be conjectured; for the colours are so faded, that the rawness of the outline is more apparent than ever, and the whole is merely curious, for it offers no beauty to common eyes. The sepulchral shrine of Bishop Stanbury, erected about 1474, is of the Gothic of that age, enriched with minute ornaments, though scarcely to be compared with those of Archbishop Chicheley, at Canterbury, and Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, at St. Alban's, both which are contemporary with it.

(To be continued.)

SYNONYMIC ELUCIDATIONS CONTINUED.

To honour. To revere. To worship. To adore.

Originally *honor* signifies a slight gift, or present; *reverence*, a bow, or prostration; *worship*, a hoisting, or extolling; and *adoration*, a praying-to, or invoking. These are all symptoms of veneration, which rise on each other in significance.

Honour the king. Merit should be honoured in every condition. Divûm templis indicit honorem.

In these instances the word *honor* is in its place. We are to pay our taxes; we are to remunerate utility; oblations are to be carried to the temple. The primary or radical idea of offering a gift is here an applicable metaphor. But in that sentence of the decalogue, *Honour thy father and thy mother*, the word *revere* would have been more proper, it being the place of parents to make gifts and to endow their children, and not the reverse. The slang of fashion often uses the word *honor* perversely. A man expresses himself rationally when he *accepts the honor of dining* with another: he accepts the gift of a dinner. But when Lord Carrington enquires of Mr. Bankes at what hour Lord Essex may *do himself the honor of a visit*, the metaphor is surely violent.

The word *revere* has been more fortunate; it is correctly used by all our writers.

> They forthwith to the place
> Repairing where he judg'd them, prostrate fell
> Before him *reverent*. *Milton.*

Lucius Verus would omit no opportunity of doing honor to Marcus Aurelius, whom he rather *revered* as his father, than treated as his partner in the empire. *Addison.*

Worth

Worth means an eminence, in which sense it is often attached to names of parishes: hence *worthy* means eminent; and *worthiship* or *worship*, a lifting into eminence. Those magistrates and public characters who were chaired on being appointed, had anciently the title of *worshipful*, which is still applied to the mayors of boroughs. *His worship* is the rustic title of a village justice. The forms of civil exaltation are in all countries transferred to the gods. Not only candidates for the wittena-gemote, but the statues of saints were put on hoistings or hustings, were carried about in procession, and exhibited at the upper end of the temple. By degrees the term *worship* passed, with the practices which it designated, altogether into the service of the church, and now means, venerating with religious rites.

> He wav'd a torch aloft, and madly vain
> Sought godlike worship from a servile train. *Dryden.*

Adoration (from *ad* and *orare*) is that rite of worship which consists in *addressing prayer* to the Divinity. It implies a belief in the continued existence and superhuman power of the being so invocated. The catholics adore the mother of God. The unitarians confine their adoration to the supreme being. The anglican litany concludes with repeated and earnest adorations of Christ.

Intelligent beneficence is the purest attribute of mind: in our equals it should be honoured, in our elders revered; in the heroes of our country, or of the world, it may fitly be worshipped; and in the author of the universe it is devoutly adored.

Memory. Remembrance. Reminiscence. Recollection.

Memory, says Locke, is the power to revive again in our minds those ideas which, after imprintment, have disappeared. The train of ideas so revived constitutes a remembrance. What sensibility is to sensation, memory is to remembrance.

Reminiscence is the act of recovering, and recollection the act of combining remembrances. Those eminences to which we attach the subordinate parts of an object come first into reminiscence; when the intervening portions present themselves in order, the recollection is complete.

Affection. Love.

Affection is love unaccompanied with desire; and love is affection accompanied with desire: both imply good will, benevolence, well-wishing toward the object of attachment; but the one excludes and the other includes corporeal longing. Affection unites a man to his child; love to his concubine. In married life, affection fills up the pauses of love, and often succeeds to it. Love is fitful; affection, constant. This distinction has been copied from the Latin. Simiarum generi præcipua erga fœtum affectio. Pliny. Non sum præceptor amoris. Ovid. Shakspeare often uses the word affection vaguely and impurely.

Discredit.

Discredit. Disgrace. Disrepute.

Who is out of money falls into discredit; who is out of favor falls into disgrace; who is out of fame falls into disrepute. A bankrupt merchant incurs discredit; a dismissed minister, disgrace; an unsuccessful author, disrepute.

Pile. Heap.

Both these words describe an accumulation, with this difference, that *pile* indicates things put up regularly, whereas *heap* implies the want of orderly arrangement. A pile of wood. A heap of rubbish. We say a pile of bricks when they are the materials prepared for building; and a heap of bricks, when they are the remains of an edifice overthrown.

To shun. To avoid.

To shun (German, *scheuen*) is *to turn away from;* and to avoid (French, *vuider*) is *to leave empty:* hence the word *shun* is oftener applied to persons, and *avoid* to things.

We shun those whose presence reminds us of any mortifying incident. Let no man make himself a confidant of the foibles of a beloved companion, least he find himself shunned by the friend of his heart. Shun bad company.

Avoid the gaming-house. Those who indulge their appetites, but avoid intemperance, commonly enjoy better health than the affectedly abstemious. Six of us only stayed, and the rest avoided the room.

Bacon.

Of late it has been imagined that the verb *avoid* derives from the French *eviter*, or the Latin *vitare;* and it has consequently been confounded by modern writers with *to shun*.

Forefathers. Ancestors. Predecessors.

Our forefathers and our ancestors are those from whom we descend; but forefathers include and ancestors exclude parents. Predecessor is not a natural but a civil denomination for one who precedes; it does not imply genealogic affinity,

An hereditary monarch succeeds to his ancestors; an elective, to his predecessors. She lies buried with her ancestors.

Each in his narrow cell for ever laid
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep. *Gray.*

We are the children of our forefathers, the descendants of our ancestors, the followers of our predecessors. The word ancestor is never applied to illegitimate parentage: the word forefather is.

Lodgings. Apartments.

He lets lodgings, who offers bed-rooms only for hire: he lets apartments, who offers sitting-rooms besides. An apartment is a suite of rooms.

rooms. In my apartment the lodgings are good. Those who have apartments in the inns of court are usually better accommodated with sitting-rooms than with lodgings.

Arbour. Bower.

Arbour, says a synonymist in the Monthly Magazine, suggests the idea of a natural recess and bower of an artificial inclosure. This, he adds, has resulted from the derivation of the words: in arbour the presence of a tree *(arbor)* is implied; bower originally meant a rounded apartment in a house.

Both these derivations are questionable. From *herberg*, a haven, or harbour, comes *arbour;* and from *bough*, a branch, comes *boughery*, or bower. A nook which shelters is an arbour; a nook formed of branches is a bower. An arbour of rock-work. A bower of faggots.

To affront. To insult.

To affront, is to strike at the forehead; to insult, is to jump upon: the one is the hostile pantomime of an angry equal, the other of a contemptuous superior. In their metaphorical and metaphysical sense these words retain the same relation.

Fearless of danger, like a petty god
I walk about admir'd of all, and dreaded
On hostile ground, none daring my affront. *Milton.*

Insultingly he made your love his boast,
Gave me my life and told me what it cost. *Dryden.*

To aggrandize. To augment.

He aggrandizes his family who adds to their rank, their wealth, their reputation; he augments his family who increases the number of his children. The English word *grand*, whence to aggrandize, signifies excelling in dignity; and the word *augere*, whence *agmen*, and to augment, signifies to increase by breeding. In French *aggrandir* corresponds with the English word *to enlarge;* because the etymon *grand* has in that language a vague sense which includes all sorts of greatness. The new suburb contains only shabby buildings; the town is enlarged and augmented, but not aggrandiz'd by this addition. By reading the loftier writers our conceptions become aggrandiz'd, and our sources of ideal pleasure augmented.

Cave. Cell.

The sense in which these words are esteemed synonymous is that of the retired dwelling of some religious person.

Cave is a habitation under ground, made either by art or nature. Cell is a little dwelling raised above ground. We dig a cave; we build a cell.

Through this a cave was dug with vast expense. *Dryden.*

Then did Religion, in a lazy cell,
In empty airy contemplations, dwell. *Denham.*

MRS. CAPPE'S LETTER ON CHARLOTTE RICHARDSON.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

THE Editor of the poems of Charlotte Richardson, a young woman whose history was given in the Monthly Magazine, and in some other periodical publications in the autumn of 1805, intreats your indulgence and that of your readers, whilst she states the occasion of her attempting to publish by subscription a second little volume of the same writer. It was the intention of the young woman herself, in conformity with the advice of her friends, to bid adieu to the Muses, and to give the whole of her mind in future to teaching a school. She had succeeded in gaining thirty little scholars at 5s. per quarter, and gave so much satisfaction to the parents, by the judicious treatment and by the rapid improvement of their children, that no doubt remained of her success, should her health be tolerably re-established, of which there appeared some hope last year on her return from a visit to a friend in the country, where she had spent the summer holidays. But this flattering hope soon vanished; the close confinement and renewed exertions of her school brought on an increased return of her former ailment, an abcess in the side, and she was taken so extremely ill the beginning of January last, as to be wholly confined to her bed more than five months; and although now considerably better, is yet unable to sit up longer than two or three hours at different intervals in the course of the day. But it may be objected —what is all this to the public? Are there not many widows in Britain whose delicacy of constitution may equally disable them from procuring a comfortable livelihood? Undoubtedly there may; but the editor would plead not one, perhaps, who with so few advantages, or rather without any one advantage of a cultivated education, has been capable of the same measure of mental, moral, and religious progress. Often during the last half year have her medical and other friends conceived her to be at the point of death, but still was her mind ever actively employed. Unable to read, to increase her little stock of knowledge, or to beguile the tedious hours of pain and languor, she would put down from time to time, with a pencil, in a moment of mitigated suffering, such thoughts as might have presented themselves, whether connected with her own afflicted situation, expressive of gratitude for the kindness of her friends, or suggested by any thing she might hear accidentally of the events that were passing around her. These little pieces were shewn to the Editor, and it was her intention, on the death of the composer, which was then daily expected, to make a selection of them for publication, both as being highly interesting and very curious in themselves, and also for the benefit of her orphan boy, now four years of age. In this design it is apprehended there would have been no impropriety, nothing that should have been deemed obtrusive or impertinent, and she hopes, therefore,

therefore, that it will not be thought so now, although the life of the mother is still spared, her recovery being yet doubtful, and the great expence of a severe illness indefinitely prolonged, exceedingly distressing.

The Editor flatters herself that many of the subscribers to the former little volume, which is now out of print, and which met with so much favour from them and from the public (six hundred copies more than the number subscribed for having been sold) will again come forward to patronize the present.* If she does not deceive herself, they will not repent of their kindness, being persuaded that they will recognize in this second publication the same pious resignation, the same interesting sensibility, the same humility of spirit which distinguished the first, improved by a greater variety of ideas, and expressed in more correct and appropriate language; they will clearly perceive, that the intelligent teacher of little children has possessed greater opportunities for the improvement of original genius than the obscure cook-maid, educated by the frugal hand of charity.

A specimen of the intended selection will be subjoined,† and a subscription of five shillings opened by Messrs. Johnson, St. Paul's Church-yard; Hatchard, Piccadilly; Mawman, Poultry; and by Longman and Co. Paternoster-row.

If it does not infringe on the plan laid down for conducting your ingenious Magazine, you will, by inserting the above in your next number, greatly oblige,

Sir, your obedient servant,

C. Cappe.

York, July 23d, 1808.

* The former little volume was so much liked in America, that a new edition has been printed there.

† See Poetry.

BIRDS SINGING BY NIGHT.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

YOUR correspondent L. H. (p. 152) takes notice that, on the 14th of July last, at half past two in the morning, several birds were heard singing, and the Lark and the Chimney Swallow were observed upon the wing. Give me leave, therefore, to inform him, through the channel of your useful and entertaining miscellany, that on the 12th of the same month, at a quarter before three A.M. I heard the Song Thrush, *Turdus Musicus*, as well as the Blackbird, *Turdus Merula*, at Hackney, in Middlesex.

I remain, Sir, yours, &c.

S. R.

London, Aug. 6th, 1808.

ON DR. SMITH'S INTRODUCTION TO BOTANY.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

AS I have no doubt but that every one of your readers, interested in botanical researches, must have felt equal pleasure with myself in the perusal of Dr. Smith's Classical Introduction to Botany, I conclude no apology will be necessary for intruding on their attention some observations suggested by that excellent work.

It has been long, and certainly very justly regretted, by many of the most able botanists now existing, that some plan for the simplification of those parts of the Linnean system, on all sides confessedly admitted to be deficient in precision and accuracy, has not been projected on grounds compatible with the principles on which Linnæus constructed his method. It was with a view to this desirable object that his intelligent successor in the botanical chair at Upsal, Sir Charles Thunberg, projected the improvement which generally goes under his name. But as this, by the reduction of one very natural class, Gynandria, and the exclusive abolition of the principle on which the three most defective classes of Linnæus are formed, that of the diclinous nature of the plants which compose them, annihilates some very obvious features of the sexual system, it has been but very partially adopted, either in this country or abroad.

Aware of the ground on which alone any justifiable alteration could be made, Dr. Smith has suggested an improvement which, while it sufficiently removes the objections of those who urge the expediency of a reformation of the Linnean system, at the same time preserves the principles on which the founder of it constructed his scheme. The great and unquestionably justly-founded objection to this part of the Linnean method is, that a number of plants in the other classes have diclinous flowers, as well as those composing the classes constructed on this principle, thus creating a confusion extremely embarrassing, and in many instances attended with insuperable difficulty to the young botanist.

To obviate this objection, Dr. S. proposes to remove from these classes to those in which they will range, according to the number or situation of their stamens, all those diclinous plants whose male and female flowers do not differ in structure, and forming those which do, into one class, under the title Diclinia. This principle, which will in an easy and intelligible manner guide the student to the arrangement of every plant in its natural situation in the system, has in fact been in part adopted in the Flora Britannica, a work the conclusion of which every classical student of the botany of this country is most anxiously anticipating.* In his future works, especially his long projected

* In the preface to the above-cited Introduction to Botany, Dr. S. has announced his intention of publishing an English Flora, which will, in the present improved state of the science, be a most acceptable addition to the botanical works calculated for the use of the fair sex.

jected edition of the Systema Vegetabilium,* it is to be wished Dr. S. would put his suggested reformation in full execution.

I cannot conclude without availing myself of the opportunity which the mention of this subject affords me, of suggesting to the learned author the utility of adding to the fourth volume of his Flora, instead of the customary generic index, a more detailed one on the plan of Dr. Withering's, embracing the specific names. And it would be of material advantage to the science, if he were to distinguish by italic characters not merely the general synonyms, but also the former names of those plants removed in his work to other genera. The utility of this plan will be particularly apparent in the mosses which have undergone so material a revolution in this respect.

* See Preface to his Edit. of Linn. Flora Lapponica. There is not at this moment a greater desideratum in science than a complete and accurate edition of this valuable work, for the accomplishment of which no one enjoys such important sources of information as its intended editor, the possessor of the Linnean Museum, and the founder and president of the society established to illustrate and apply its contents.

V. M.

Aug. 2, 1808.

POETIC METAPHOR.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

YOUR judicious and temperate Magazine intermixes the lighter and more elegant objects of poetry and polite literature with the abstruser disquisitions that contribute to the wide and variegated circle of human knowledge. From this persuasion have I now ventured to offer the few subsequent lines on the subject of my present address.

It occurred to me, on reading Gray's Ode, relative to the Pleasures of Vicissitude, that this generally accurate poet had not preserved the integrity of a metaphor there introduced in the verses which follow:

> Smiles on *past* Misfortune's brow,
> Soft Reflexion's hand can trace;
> And o'er the cheek of Sorrow throw
> A melancholy grace.

I think it palpable that, by the adjunct *past*, Misfortune is converted from a person to an attribute, from a metaphor to a word. By eking out the metre with this word, Misfortune is no longer considered as an image: and yet, had it been unaccompanied, would have been liable to no objection.

With far more propriety, the recollection of *past* times may be exemplified in one instance from the *Altamira* of Benjamin Victor; a work that very little revision might adapt to the modern stage, unless its

its horrible catastrophe had not justly operated in Garrick's exclusion of its performance. I know not if the idea be original; but, in the first scene of this piece, the memory of departed friendship is represented by departed sunshine, which

> Gleam'd back from the pale moon, lends form to midnight
> *That else were utter darkness.*

This thought is, in my opinion, possessed of a pleasing melancholy, which excellently agrees with its subject. Under this head, an example from Theobald's Double Falsehood may, perhaps, be consistently included, which has attracted Mr. Gifford's notice in a comment on the Duke of Milan. Of an exalted character it is said, that

> None but himself can be his *parallel:*

respecting which Mr. G. affirms, that it may be justified by similar expressions in antient and modern authors. This circumstance I beg leave to doubt, or, at least, its foundation in the principles of sound criticism. I am well aware that a person may be said to possess no equal in this world but himself; as in Seneca, Herc. Fur.

> Quæris *Alcidæ parem?*
> Nemo est, nisi ipse:

Yet let me observe, that the expression *parallel*, which pre-supposes some antagonist to confront the hero, has the effect of splitting him into two distinct natures; a sort of inferior Geryon, or a two-headed Janus.

Were I to attempt a discrimination between style and diction, metaphor would be referred to the former, and mere expression to the latter: although it is not my intention to assert, that no other characteristics are inherent in these qualities. Campbell's Philosophy of Rhetoric divides the original attributes of style into elegance, music, vivacity, animation. The two former belong clearly to diction, as separated from style: we talk of an elegant, a nervous expression, and a gay, animated, or pompous style. That style is capable of the same epithets as diction is perfectly correct; because it is the superior quality in which the other is comprised. In confirmation of this remark we may, perhaps, note, that, if any single expression be transferred to a sense which is usually employed in another, it partakes of the nature of metaphor; as in Fletcher's allusion to Virgil's impressive verse,

> *Quæsivit* cœlo lucem, gemuitque reperta.

The English poet has it, on one who is recovering from a swoon,

> See, he gathers up his sprite,
> And begins to *hunt for* light.

Thus, too, when Echo is made to lament the death of Bion, because she

she no longer μιμεῖ̈σθαι τὰ σὰ χείλεα, or Milton speaks of Lydian airs, as being

Married to immortal verse,

we immediately acknowledge that, in all these instances, beautiful and appropriate as they may be, they are only consistent with the style of poetry, in which, according to an acute critic,* tropical and figurative expression is a prominent attribute. With this latter qualification prose also accords, but to inferior extent, and in a lesser degree.

Our standard poets could supply many other interesting passages; but as these cursory observations would not probably atone for a farther detail of illustration, I hasten to conclude,

Sir, yours, respectfully, D. L. S.

Tower-hill.

* Bishop Hurd. *Idea of Universal Poetry.*

OMNIANA.

107. *Nebuchadnezzar.*

Nebuchadnezzar has been worse used in doggrel than even poor As-in-præsenti himself. But scurvily as he has been berhymed for his conquest of Jerusalem, etymologists have as scurvily explained his name, and invented a story to explain their explanation. They say, he was exposed when an infant under a tree; a she goat gave him suck, and an owl hooted at noon day from the boughs above: this unusual noise excited the attention of a leper who was passing by; he turned aside to the tree, saw the child, and preserved him; and, in memory of these circumstances, named him Nabuchodonosor; *Nabug* signifying in Chaldee an owl, *codo* a she goat, and *nosor* a leper.

108. *Omens.*

The Atlas, a three-decker, was launched in 1782. When they came to ship her bowsprit, the figure stood so high that it was necessary to cut away part of the globe upon his shoulders, and that part happened to be America. Sailors remarked this as ominous at the time, and the event has not weakened their belief in omens.

An omen of heavier import was noticed when the new standard was first hoisted on board the Royal William at Spithead, after the union with Ireland. A gale of wind blew it from the mast-head, and the flag was lost. It was said, that when her sheet-anchor was weighed after the gale, the flag was found twined round its flukes. This was a pious fraud: they who invented it, endeavoured to counteract a superstition in others, which they were conscious of in themselves.

These omens, which are not generally known, deserve to be recorded; the first because it has been fulfilled, the second because it will not

not be. The winds may do their will with the standard of Great Britain, but it is safe from the power of man.

A statesman derided omens; they ought not to be derided; for popular feeling is sometimes a barometer which perceives the change of atmosphere before it is visible. An historian, therefore, ought not to discard them. They are delightful to the poet, and valuable to the philosopher. Who can read in Josephus of the prodigies which announced the fall of Jerusalem without feeling his heart fail?

Were I to relate in poetry Rodrigo's descent into the cavern of Toledo, I would describe it as having the images of his predecessors, the Gothic king, set up round the sides of the rock, and only one nich vacant. Torch-light would give a terrifying effect to what may be seen without any effect at all in the Royal Exchange.

109. *Munchausen.*

Who is the author of Munchausen's Travels, a book which every body knows, because all boys read it?

Two of his stories are to be found in a Portugueze magazine, if so it may be called, published about fourscore years ago, with this title —*Folheto de Ambas Lisboas*. The seventh number contains a tale of a hunter shooting a wild boar with a peach-stone, because he had exhausted all his ball, and afterwards meeting the same boar with a peach-tree growing out of his loins. The other resemblance is less striking. A waterman talked one night from the street to a woman at a window, and as neither of them could hear distinctly what the other said, *What do you say?* was frequently repeated by both. The reason why they could not hear was, that it froze very hard at the time, and in the morning the wall was covered with, *What do you says*, in ice.

It is not likely that the author of Munchausen should have seen these *Folhetos;* the low wit which they are filled with could at no time have been well understood beyond the limits of Lisbon, and has long been obsolete there; and in all probability very few sets have escaped the common fate of worthless papers, published in loose sheets, and thereby tempting the destruction which they deserve. But it is probable that the Portugueze and English writers both have had recourse to the same store-house of fable.

110. *Cold-bathing in Fevers.*

Amerigo Vespucci describes cold bathing as the remedy for fever which was used by the American Indians; but they accompanied it with a practice which must have counteracted its beneficial effects. "*Cum eorum quempiam febricitare contigit, horâ quâ febris eum asperius inquietat, ipsum in frigentissimam aquam immergunt & balneant, postmodumque per duas horas circa ignem validum, donec plurimum calescat, currere & recurrere cogunt, & postremo ad dormiendum deferunt, quo quidem medicamento complures eorum sanitati restitui vidimus.*"

111. *Payment*

111. *Payment of a Copyer of Books.*

The form of a written agreement, which is preserved in the Partidas, happens to relate to a curious subject. It is the bargain of a copyer or scribe.

"Know all men to whom this writing shall come, that Pero Martinez, the scribe, promiseth, consenteth, and bindeth himself to the Dean of Toledo, to write for him the text of such a book, and that he will write it and go on with it till it be compleated, in such a hand as he hath written for a sample in the first leaf of this book, before me N. Notary Public, who have made this writing, and the witnesses whose names are hereunto subjoined. Also the aforesaid Scribe promiseth that he will not labour in writing any other work till this book be finished. And he engageth to do this for the sum of thirty maravedis, ten of which he acknowledgeth to have received from the aforesaid Dean, and the other maravedis are to be paid in this manner: ten when half the book shall have been written, and the other ten when it is finished.

112. *Animals in Paradise.*

The animals in Paradise are the prophet Saleh's camel, the ram which Abraham sacrificed instead of Isaac, Moses's cow (the red cow, whose ashes were mingled with the water of purification), Solomon's ant (who, when all creatures, in token of their obedience to him, brought him presents, dragged before him a locust, and was therefore preferred before all others because it had brought a creature so much bigger than itself); the queen of Sheba's parrot, who carried messages between her and Solomon; Ezra's ass, Jonah's whale; Kitmer, the dog of the Seven Sleepers; and Mahomet's camel. *Thevenot.*

Most probably this suggested to Voltaire the dramatis personæ of his Taureau Blanc.

113. *Glover's Leonidas.*

Glover's Leonidas was duly praised at its first appearance, and more unduly depreciated. The periodical publications of the day abound with criticisms and panegyrics upon it. The best piece of ridicule which appeared upon the occasion is the argument of an epic poem entitled, Jack the Giant-killer.

Book 1. A poetico-historical account how Jack went to an old witch to enquire how to make himself glorious. How the old witch told him, he must be knocked on the head at the Straits of Gibraltar. How Jack, who laughed at all witchcraft, followed the old witch's advice, but first took leave of his wife and family.

2. How Jack travelled and travelled till he came to the Straits. How the giant sent word to Jack he would eat him up. How Jack bade him kiss his ——.

3. How the giant brought all the world to fight against little Jack.

4. 5. How Jack's men fought with the giant's men; but neither Jack nor the giant did any thing.

6. 7. How

6. 7. How prince Prettyman fell in love, and how Miss Airy killed herself for the man she never spoke to.

8. 9. How Jack, who for a long while said nothing, said his prayers, went out, and was knocked on the head.

CLASSICAL DISQUISITIONS.

THE TRAGIC WRITERS, PRATINAS, PHRYNICHUS, AND ÆSCHYLUS.

The account which is commonly given of the origin of the Greek drama from the Chorus of Bacchus, is in itself sufficiently probable, and sufficiently supported by external evidence, to justify our acquiescence in it. Many other questions may be proposed relative to the Greek theatre, which afford scope for much disquisition, as the celebration of the Dionysia, the construction and scenery of the theatre, the mode of recitation, the employment of music, the office and use of the Chorus, with others of a similar nature. Omitting the consideration of these till some future occasion, we shall for the present proceed in giving a brief account of the principal tragic writers and their remaining works. Those previous to Æschylus will require but little notice, both because their performances are lost, and the accounts which remain of them are brief and obscure. The chief whose names are mentioned are Pratinas, Phrynichus, Chærilus, and Melanippides.

Pratinas was the son of Pyrrhonidas or Encomius, and was born at Phlius, in Peloponnesus. He repaired to Athens for the purpose of representing dramatic performances, and in the LXX. Olympiad contended with Æschylus and Chærilus. Though he wrote fifty tragedies, he had the bad fortune of gaining only one prize. Many of his pieces were satyrical, and he is indeed said by Suidas to have been the author of this species of dramatic composition.*

An accident which happened at the performance of one of his plays, is said to have given the first occasion for the construction of a regular and durable theatre. The scaffolds on which the spectators were placed gave way, and by the mischief which ensued the Athenians were induced to guard against the future occurrence of a similar misfortune, by erecting a theatre of more substantial materials.

Phrynichus appears to have been a much more considerable writer. He is ranked by Plutarch with Æschylus as being the first to introduce the fables of mythology, and the sufferings of heroes, on the stage. Before them we must therefore suppose tragedy to have been altogether

* An anonymous and corrupt fragment in Athenæus, xiv. 622, is corrected and claimed for this poet by Mr. Porson, in his late edition of the Hecuba, p. 3.

ther irregular and grotesque. Phrynichus introduced some change in the versification of the drama, and is said to have been the first who exhibited female characters.

A singular circumstance is recorded with respect to one of his performances, which strongly displays the inconsistent and capricious character of the Athenians. Miletus, the capital of Ionia, and an ancient colony of the Athenians, a city eminent for its riches and splendour, and the illustrious characters to whom it had given birth, had been recently sacked by the Persian troops. On this calamity Phrynichus founded his tragedy, entitled the "Taking of Miletus." The audience honoured its representation by the testimony of their tears; and so powerful was the impression which it produced, that the representation of this calamitous event was forbidden by a public edict, and a fine of a thousand drachmas was imposed upon the author.*

Phrynichus is said to have been the scholar of Thespis. He wrote a tragedy called Phœnissæ, on the subject of the Persian war, of which the author of the argument prefixed to the Persæ of Æschylus gives the following account. Glaucus, in his treatise on the fables of Æschylus, says, that his Persæ was borrowed from the Phœnissæ of Phrynichus. He quotes this verse as the beginning of the play:

Ταδ' εστι Περσων των παλαι βεβηκοτων.

An eunuch was introduced, bringing the intelligence of the defeat of Xerxes, and preparing seats for the chiefs of the Persians. Phrynichus is also said to have represented a tragedy at Athens, by which he obtained the victory, Themistocles bearing the charge of the scenery and Chorus; in memory of which an inscription to the following effect is recorded by Plutarch. "Themistocles, of the district of Phreari, bore the charge, Phrynichus made the tragedy, and Adimantus was Archon." Bentley conjectures this play to have been the Phœnissæ just mentioned, since no subject could be so gratifying to Themistocles as the defeat of Xerxes, in which he had borne so great a share.

A passage of Suidas has given occasion to the supposition that there were two tragic poets of the name of Phrynichus. This lexicographer first speaks of Phrynichus, the son of Polyphradmon, or Minyras, or Chorocles, the scholar of Thespis, enumerating some of his tragedies; and in another article, of Phrynichus, the son of Melanthas, an Athenian tragedian, the titles of some of whose plays differing from the former he likewise mentions. The latter passage is taken from the scholiast of Aristophanes, who adds, that this Phrynichus also wrote the "Taking of Miletus." But this single authority is of little moment. The different names assigned in the first article to the father of Phrynichus shew his history to have been uncertain; and the plays ascribed to two writers, were in all probability the work of one. For all the writers, who are very numerous, who speak of the play entitled the "Taking of Miletus," style the author of it simply

* Herodotus, vi. 21.

simply Phrynichus, the tragedian, without any mark of distinction derived from age or any other circumstance, from any other supposed author of the same name. The scholiast of Aristophanes also, and Suidas, in enumerating various persons who bore the name of Phrynichus, make mention of only one as a tragic poet.

Chærilus is said to have been the author of 150 plays, and to have gained thirteen prizes. Melanippides was his contemporary, and besides other poems, wrote Dithyrambi and tragedies. Some fragments are cited from him by ancient authors.

These writers, perhaps, contributed in a considerable degree to the refinement of dramatic poetry from the meanness of its original state. The change was not, however, accomplished without opposition from the admirers of the ancient performances. The Chorus* used at first to sing a Dithyramb to the honour of Bacchus, but in time the poets relinquished it, and made the Giants and Centaurs the subjects of their plays; upon which the spectators mocked them, and said, "that was nothing to Bacchus," which gradually became a proverbial phrase. The poets, therefore, sometimes introduced the Satyrs, that they might not seem entirely to forget the god of the festival. Yet tragedy was in all probability left by these poets in a very imperfect state. The Chorus seems still to have remained the predominant part of the drama. This may be concluded from various authorities, and particularly from a passage of Aristotle, quoted and corrected by Bentley. He advances the following question as a problem. "Why did Phrynichus write more lyric songs than any modern poet?" In solution of which he says, "Was it because the songs of the Chorus were much more numerous than the verses spoken by the actors?"

It was, therefore, from the genius of Æschylus that both the decorations of the stage and the construction of the drama received their most material improvements.

> **Personæ pallæque repertor honestæ,**
> **Æschylus et modicis instravit pulpita tignis,**
> **Et docuit magnumque loqui, nitique cothurno.**

Æschylus was the son of Euphorion. The time of his birth is somewhat uncertain, but is commonly placed by critics in the sixty-third Olympiad, the epoch of the Arundelian marble. He was sprung from a noble family. He is commonly supposed to have been an Athenian citizen of Eleusis. By others, with less authority, he is thought to have been a native of Decelia. He was present in the battles of Marathon, Salamis, and Platæa, in which his valour was distinguished. He had three brothers, Aminias, Euphorion, and Cynægirus, who likewise signalized themselves by military exploits. In the naval battle of Salamis, Aminias lost an arm, and was honoured with the first prize of valour.† A remarkable circumstance is mentioned in the battle of Marathon, respecting Cynægirus, another of the brothers. As the Persians were flying in confusion to their ships,

* Zenobius and Suidas ap. Bentley, 243. † Ælian, v. 19.

ships, Cynægirus seized one of the vessels, which he continued to hold till his hand was cut off. Such is the circumstance as told by Herodotus.* It is related with some marvellous additions by the later writers. It was at an early age that Æschylus applied himself to the cultivation of tragic poetry. It was allegorically said by the ancients, that when a child, being placed to watch some grapes in a field, he fell asleep, and that Bacchus appeared to him in a dream, and ordered him to make tragedies. Some liberties which he took with the popular mythology, caused him to be suspected of impiety. When the enraged people were preparing to stone him to death, his brother Aminias interposed in his behalf, and turning aside his garment, displayed his mutilated arm, and diverted the popular fury. Æschylus at length quitted his native country, and departed to Sicily, whether through the compulsion of his enemies, or his jealousy at the success of his rivals, Sophocles or Simonides. He was well received in Sicily, in which island he died. Respecting the cause of his death a strange and incredible story is related. An eagle, it is said, which was bearing a tortoise through the air, let it fall on his bald head, mistaking it for a rock. He probably died in the eighty-first Olympiad, at the age of sixty-nine. In his epitaph he seems to rest his pride rather on his military exploits than his literary fame, appealing to the field of Marathon and the long-haired Persian as witnesses of his valour.

Αλκην ευδοκιμον Μαραθωνιον αλσος αν ειποι,
Και βαθυχαιτηεις Μηδος επισταμενος.

In his personal character he was silent and grave. He is said by Cicero to have been attached to the Pythagorean philosophy. He was addicted to intoxication, in which state he is said to have composed his tragedies, which gave occasion to Sophocles to remark, that though he did things well, he knew not what he did.

He was the author of many improvements both in dramatic composition and representation, though in both the boldness of his conceptions seems sometimes to have degenerated into wildness and extravagance. He gave to the habits in which his performers were dressed forms so dignified and majestic, that they were adopted by the priests for the service of the altar. He arranged the dances performed by his chorus, which were usually well adapted to the subject. In his play of the Eumenides he introduced fifty furies on the stage, in disguises so terrible as to produce the most alarming effects on women and children who were present. On this occasion the magistrates interfered, and a law was passed limiting the number of which the Chorus should consist, with a penalty in case of the violation of the rule. Æschylus limited the office of the Chorus in the conduct of his tragedies, multiplied the number of characters, and introduced a chief character on whom the interest of the piece should turn.

Æschylus is said to have acknowledged the obligations under which he

* Ælian, vi. 114.

he lay to the father of poetry, by declaring that his tragedies were but fragments from the splendid feast of Homer. When the prize was conferred on the performance of an antagonist of inferior merit, he made his appeal to posterity, strongly expressing his confidence in the ultimate justice of the decision which would be made.

Various honours were paid to his memory at Athens. A statue was erected to him in the theatre of Bacchus, and his exploits at the battle of Marathon were represented in a picture.

Only seven of his numerous plays are extant; the Prometheus vinctus, the Seven Champions before Thebes, the Persæ, the Agamemnon, the Choephoræ, the Eumenides, and the Suppliant Virgins. The stage of Æschylus, as might naturally be expected, is not wholly free from imperfections which mark its recent origin from the rude and gross state in which he received the drama. His plots are simple, and are commonly destitute of those artifices by which later writers have sought to excite and suspend attention. His choral odes, like the Dithyramb from which they sprung, are full of bold and excessive metaphors, which often obscure rather than illustrate his thoughts. He has in a considerable degree transferred the same style even to the dramatic parts, where it necessarily becomes on many occasions tumid and extravagant. On the other hand his thoughts are bold and well conceived, and the language in which they are expressed, though loaded with pompous metaphors, is precise and energetic. He does not, perhaps, excel in the general delineation of character, but has in some instances produced scenes which equal in impressive effect those of any tragic writer, ancient or modern. Some further remarks on his style, and his remaining works, will be reserved for another paper.

The following are the editions of Æschylus:

Aldi, Venet. 8vo. 1518. Editio princeps. This edition is not so highly esteemed as some of the Aldine productions. The Agamemnon and Choephoræ, each imperfect, are so mingled and confused, as to form apparently but one play. The edition was superintended by Fr. Asulanus.

Turnebi, Paris, 8vo. 1552. This edition was rendered more correct than the Aldine by the aid of a MS. of Æmarius Ranconetus, but the Agamemnon was left imperfect.

Robortelli, Venet. 8vo. 1552. This edition is rare and valuable, and Æschylus owes much to the able critic by whom it was superintended. He likewise printed the scholia separately in the same year.

Victorii, Paris, 4to. 1557. This edition was printed by Henry Stephens, and is the first which contains the entire Agamemnon.

Canteri, Antwerp, 12mo. 1580. This edition is printed in a very small size, but elegantly and correctly, by Plantin. It is the basis of some succeeding editions. The editor bestowed much attention on the arrangement of the metres.

Stanleii, Lond. fol. 1663 and 1664. This edition is printed in a magnificent form. It contains the scholia, the fragments, the notes and

and prefaces of preceding editors, and the annotations of the very learned editor himself. The text is from Canter.

Pauro, Hag. Com. 4to. 1745, 2 vol. This edition is a republication of the former, with some additions, which have not been considered as greatly augmenting its value.

Two elegant editions were printed at Glasgow in 1746, in 4to. and 12mo.

Schutz, Hal. Sax. 8vo. 1782-99, 3 vol. This edition, though it contains all the plays, is not yet complete, the scholia, fragments, and *apparatus historicus* being still withheld. It is printed in a commodious form, though not an elegant manner. It contains a collection of various readings from all the preceding editions and some MSS., and is illustrated by an ample commentary. The accuracy of the editor in his report of various readers, cannot, it is said, be depended on. His commentary is elegant and learned, and highly useful for the illustration of the frequent difficulties of his author. His corrections are commonly ingenious, but perhaps not always necessary. Schutz likewise published an edition without the commentaries, in two volumes, 8vo. with a Latin version, Hal. 1800. In this edition, intended only for the commodious perusal of the author, he has freely admitted some conjectural emendations.

A magnificent edition in folio was surreptitiously and incorrectly printed at Glasgow in 1795, from the text of Professor Porson. His genuine edition was printed in 1794, in two volumes, 8vo. but not published till 1806. It contains, as might be expected, many admirable improvements of the text. "It is deeply to be regretted that the notes have not appeared; for we have no hesitation in avowing our decided opinion, that the corrections already published, admirable and unrivalled as they are, exhibit only an imperfect specimen of Mr. Porson's achievements in restoring the text of Æschylus." *Monthly Rev. May*, 1807, *App.*

An edition was published at Leipsic in 1805 by Bothe, in which the text is so licentiously altered and corrupted as to be unworthy of perusal. D.

SELECT TRANSLATIONS FROM THE GREEK ANTHOLOGY.

(Continued.)

FROM ANTIPHANES.

On a Fountain near which a Murder had been committed.

Erewhile my gentle streams were wont to pour
Along their banks a pure translucent tide;
But now their waves are shrunk and channel dried,
And every nymph knows her loved haunt no more,
Since that sad moment, when my verdant shore
Was with the crimson stain of murder dyed.
To cool the sparkling heat of wine we glide,
But shrink abhorrent from the stain of gore.

The

The turn of thought in this epigram evidently depends on the ancient custom of mixing water with wine, in order to cool it. This, which would be considered as no great luxury by most of our countrymen, was so much esteemed in the hot countries of Greece and the Levant, as to have been reduced by the natives to a regular system with all the most refined rules of curious science. In Dr. Barry's work "On the Wines of the Ancients," may be found a very minute account of this cooling process. Several allusions to the custom may be produced from the Anthology, particularly the epigram which Prior has thus imitated.

> Great Bacchus, born in thunder and in fire,
> By native heat asserts his dreadful ire;
> Nourish'd near shady rills and cooling streams,
> He to the nymphs avows his amorous flames.
> To all the brethren at the Bell and Vine,
> The moral says, "mix water with your wine."

A passage in Aristænetus will give some idea of the extent of refinement to which this luxury was sometimes carried. A lover is describing the pleasures of a day passed alone with his mistress in a beautiful country-retreat, which a friend had lent him for the purpose. As they wandered at evening through a shady valley, a small stream of cold and transparent water, unobserved before, glided by their feet and interrupted their progress. Down this "infant current" a "fleet" of drinking vessels, formed like ships, and filled with the most delicious wine, sailed before their eyes. The master of the garden had planned this agreeable entertainment, unknown to his guests, and managed it with the most skilful delicacy.

> For where they loaded the nectareous fleet,
> The goblet glow'd with too intense a heat;
> Cool'd by degrees in these convivial ships,
> With nicest taste it met our thirsty lips.
>
> *Aristæn. translated by Sheridan, &c.* 1771. *Ep.* 3.

A still further refinement on the luxury was, that the very *leaves*, which formed the *sails* of these little vessels, were of such *medicinal* virtue, that the lovers might indulge, without apprehension of consequences, in the intoxicating beverage.

From Strato the Sardian.

> Oh, how I loved, when, like the gorgeous sun,
> Firing the Orient with a blaze of light,
> Thy beauty every lesser star outshone!
> Now o'er that beauty steals the approach of night.
> Yet, yet, I love! Tho' in the western sea
> Half sunk, the day-star still is fair to me.

This

This exquisitely beautiful epigram reminds me of that of Paul the Silentiary, inserted in p. 75 of my Translations, and which gave me occasion to introduce the reply of M. de Nivernois to the verses which accompanied the offering, made by Madame de Mirepoix, of a lock of her grey hair. Those verses are hardly inferior to the reply. They have, perhaps, less point, but are by no means deficient in the spirit of gaiety and tenderness which characterizes the former. I have attempted a translation of them, which, by way of variety, I will insert in this place.

Look, they are grey—but turn'd to grey
These locks our union's date attest;
Poor spoils that age can tear away,
Which leaves us yet in friendship blest.
No change in friendship's star appears,
Whose lustre, as in early prime,
Shines in the winter of our years,
Kindled by choice, and fed by time.
No more the world our flame approving,
Shall force our bosoms to repress it:
Grey hairs, besides the charm of loving,
Allow the freedom to confess it.

ACCOUNTS OF, AND EXTRACTS FROM, RARE AND CURIOUS BOOKS.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE BODLEIAN MS. TERENCE.

(Continued from p. 135.)

So much for general remark: now to be a little more particular.—It should, then, seem, that Dr. Bentley had not used this MS. when his edition of these Plays was published. I have collated, therefore, the first Scene in the Bodl. Terence with Dr. Bentley's edition, and leave the result of the comparison with the reader, that he may form his own conclusion on the worth of the manuscript.

B. v. 5. iis. B. M. his. B. 8. Ego postquam te emi, a parvulo ut semper tibi. B. M. Ego postquam te emi a parvulo, ut semper tibi. B. 13. Haud muto. Sos. Factum gaudeo. B. Si. Haud muto factum. Sos. Gaudeo, &c. B. 15. Quasi exprobratio est inmemori beneficii. B. M. inmemoris beneficii. B. 18. quid est quod. B. M. Quid est quid. B. M. 24. no, *ac*. B. 32. et tamen omnia hæc. B. M. et tamen hæc omnia. B. 33. nam id ego arbitror. B. M. nam id arbitror. B. 35. cum quibus erat cumque una, iis sese dedere. B. M. cum quibus erat, cumque una iis sese dedere. B. 38. ita facillime. B. M. ita ut facillime. B. 45. huc viciniæ. B. M. huic viciniæ. B. 48. lana ac tela. B. M. lana et tela. B. 52.

dein

dein. B. M. dehinc. B. Phædrum aut Cliniam aut Niceratum dicebant. B. M. Phædram aut Cliniam dicebant aut Niceratum. B. 60. symbolam. B. M. Symbolum. B. 68. Scias posse jam habere. B. M. Scias posse habere jam. B. M. 68. Cum, but altered to tum by a second hand. B. 72. fama hac. B. M. hæc fama. B. 75. Placuit: despondi. B. M. Placuit, despondit. B. 74. dictust dies. B. M. dictus est dies. B. 76. Quid igitur obstat, cur non fiant. B. M. quid obstat cur non veræ fiant. B. 80. qui amarant. B. M. qui amabant. B. 81. Curabat una funus: tristis interim. B. M. curabat una funus tristis, interim. B. 85. quid mihi hic faciat patri. B. M. quid hic mihi, &c. B. 85. ingeni. B. M. ingenii. B. 91. forma bona. Sos. fortasse. M. forma. Sos. bona fortasse. B. 93. ut nil supra. B. M. ut nihil supra. B. 74. quæ tum mihi, &c. B. M. quæ cum mihi, &c. B. 99. hæc illæ lacrimæ. B. M. hinc illæ lacrimæ. B. 131. impositst. B. M. imposita est. B. 134. satis cum periclo. B. M. satis cum periculo. B. 106. adcurrit. B. M. accurrit. B. 116. damnum. B. M. dampnum. B. 117. 118. 119. clamitans: Indignum facinus: comperisse, Pamphilum pro uxore habere hanc peregrinam. B. M. ad me clamitans, Indignum facinus, comperisse, Pamphilum, &c. B. 125. vivendumst. B. M. vivendum est. B. 129. Injuriast. B. M. injuria est. B. 132. consili. B. M. consilii. B. 138. sed quid opust verbis. B. M. sed quid opus est verbis. B. 138. sin eveniat, quod volo, In Pamphilo ut nil sit moræ, restat Chremes. B. M. Sine eveniat quod volo in Pamphilo, ut nihil sit moræ. B. 149. qui mi. B. M. qui mihi. B. 144. I præ, sequar. B. M. I, præsequar, a mere blunder of the scribe.

Let this suffice for different readings: a word or two next for the masks, and other representations, which exhibit the several characters in the plays: for these constitute the great peculiarity, and the principal ornament of this volume.

There are prefixed to the Andria 13 masks, which, I suppose, were meant to answer to the 13 characters in the play. These are not like modern masks, which cover only the face. Besides the face, they, like a wig, covered the whole head. And Madame Dacier, when speaking of the ancient masks (for she also found some resembling these in a MS. Terence in the King's Library at Paris) has well observed,* that they illustrate the well-known passage in Phædrus,

> **Personam tragicam forte vulpes viderat:**
> **O quanta species, in quit cerebrum non habet.**
>
> **A fox by chance once saw a tragic mask—**
> **Oh! what a head, he cried, that has no brains!**

Further, these masks are made in conformity to the Roman stage, which were full three times as large as ours. A width of mouth, therefore,

* Les Comedies de Terence traduites en Francois. Par Madame Dacier.

therefore, became necessary to make the voice more sounding,* whilst the largeness of the features was reduced by the distance of the actors. This seeming extravagance, then, was not intended to make the performers look ridiculous; they were but natural expedients, well adapted to the place.

Terence's plays being all founded on Grecian manners, copied, or imitated at least from Menander, the actors dresses in this MS. are made conformable to the costume of the Greeks. The slaves appear in short wide jackets, the other characters wear the flowing robe, the Greek *pallium*. The person speaking the prologue has a branch in his right hand: this is most probably intended for the Cypress; for as dramatic exhibitions were first made, in the time of a pestilence, to avert the divine anger, so did they continue to be acted in their more advanced state in the funeral games.† All wear the sock or light-heeled buskin, assigned to Comedy, as the high-heeled buskin the cothurnus was to tragedy. And the mask, the dress, and the whole manner are made aptly to express the character and the passion of the person speaking. Madame Dacier has, in her preface, pointed out several passages in her author, which are illustrated by the designs in her manuscript.

In a former paper I said, that I *understood* Colman had copied the masks in his translation: this I took from hearsay, and I had not the translation by me at the time: on turning to Colman, I perceive he has only the head of Terence between two masked actors, which he evidently copied from Madame Dacier's frontispiece. He does not, I think, appear to have seen this manuscript. These observations, though trifling, are necessary, in order to preserve an air of correctness.

With respect to the learned Madame Dacier, she does not appear, by her own account, to have been much conversant in ancient manuscripts: and had not curiosity enough to examine the MSS. in the King's library till she had finished her translation; when she was informed she *ought* to see them. But she speaks highly of the MS. alluded to above; and I conclude, from what she says, that the masks and other designs in the Bodleian MS. were copied, either entirely or in part, from that in the King's library at Paris, examined by that lady.

Our plan admits not of particular critiques, and I shall not, therefore, so far attempt to play the critic, as to make a comparison of the readings in the Bodleian MS. with those in Dr. Bentley's edition: and in regard to that sagacious critic himself, one general remark shall suffice:

* *Post hunc personæ pallæq: repertor honestæ,*
Es docuit magnumq: loqui. *Hor. Ars Poet.* 280.

† It need surprize nobody to find, that some of Terence's plays were written Ludis funebribus (in the funeral games), when it is recollected that stage-plays (ludi scenici) were first introduced among the Romans, in a time of pestilence; and that even in their funeral processions players and buffoons were introduced, who supported the character of the deceased, and delivered pertinent passages from dramatic writers. See the Roman Antiquities, a very judicious work, by Dr. Alexander Adams, Rector of the High School, in Edinburgh.

suffice: and it is this—that he adapts his readings, perhaps, too often, to his favourite system of *Terentian metres*.

This system I do not undertake to controvert; it is ingenious, and certainly very liberal; it makes, I mean, certain allowances for the variety of measures introduced in these plays. This liberty seems to have offended Horace, and might, perhaps, have offended Aristotle still more. But Bentley pronounces it both convenient and necessary, as better adapted to colloquial discourse, to the language and manners both of ordinary citizens and slaves.*

Terence, perhaps, might, and I think did, carry this liberty where Dr. Bentley's system will not follow him. It is well known how much he humours and plays with his characters. He might be said, most emphatically,

Descriptas servare vices, operumq: colores. *Hor. Ars. Poet.* v. 86.

Each scene of many coloured life he drew. *Dr. Johnson.*†

and it is probable, where a blundering farcical slave, a dreaming old man, a lisping boy, or a simpering coquetting madam, are made to speak, or any thing quaint is meant to be expressed, that he would sometimes study character rather than quantity, and that, provided he could make his hearers smile, he would not mind, with all his elegance, breaking Priscian's head. Here, too, he was assisted by the music, which, as in our Opera, always accompanied the Comedy. Indeed this humourous and colloquial accommodation are so conspicuous, that some have supposed these plays to be almost, if not altogether, in prose;

Ne sint sonora verba consuetudinis

There are MSS. formerly in our King's library (now in the British Museum) written as though all the plays were composed in prose. There are, indeed, MSS. of Terence, very ancient, of nearly eleven hundred years, according to what Bentley admits himself, which exhibit Terence, like Cicero or Livy, without the distinctions of verse. Shakespeare has adopted verse as the ground-work of his comedies, but frequently, in playing with his characters, or while indulging his humours, or in consulting variety, he uses mere prose: nor do I doubt, that with the latitude which the *Terentian metres* allows (according to Bentley) and with such liberties as this great critic thought himself

* Melius vero ac citius de comicis est sentiendum. Profecto Terentius noster, si quisquam alius, in artis leges arte peccavit, studio, non ignorantia; necessitate vel saltem commoditate inductus; & qualecunque illud delicti est, magnis virtutibus redempturus. Sermo enim ea de causâ propius apud Nostrum ad consuetudinem accedit, quam apud Menandrum: Oratio apud unum de medio sumpta, deque vita honestiorum civium: versus minime cavi sed verbis sensibusque spissi: apud alterum, dum metro servire coactus est, stilus paulo elatior et sententiæ dilutiores. De Metris Terentianis.

† This line is placed here as an apt translation, and because, probably, Johnson, in this fine verse, had Horace's in view.

himself authorized to take, it might be all made to fall into the ranks, as Iambic, or Trochaic, Cretic, Bacchic, or Choriambic verse. A critic going contrary to the authority of all MSS. and printed books (as Dr. B. often confesses he does) may be like a rash surgeon, who cuts deeper than the wound lies. And as Bentley has so often failed in Milton, we may easily believe he has not always succeeded in Terence.* But these remarks are made amidst much admiration of what Bentley says, de Terentianis Metris.

But to return to our manuscript—for this is all general, and not intended to apply to the above readings, nor, indeed, exclusively, to any readings contained in that volume.

I had proceeded thus far in my reflections, when I was informed by a learned gentleman, distinguished in the university of Oxford for his acquaintance with classical literature, that Westerhovius had mentioned this MS. in his edition of 1726. On turning to Westerhovius I perceive, that Gronovius examined this MS. for him, and copied so much of the introductory part as relates to Terence's Life, which Westerhovius has inserted in his preface.† But as I do not find there is any further account of it given by him, nor by any other writer, this slight description of it may, perhaps, be acceptable to some of your readers: for though this curious and beautiful MS. is not very ancient, yet, from the care and elegance with which it is written, it should seem that it was copied from one that was deemed both ancient and valuable. It is defective from Act v. Scen. vi. 13. *Phormio* to the end: 'hominum homo honoratissime: in Dr. Bentley, Ornatissime. But I collated no more than is copied in this paper; and the reader will please to observe, that I have passed unnoticed the mere differences of letters, common in MSS. of that age, such as the single e for the æ diphthong, michi for mihi, nichil for nihil, and the mode of stopping.

Worcester.

Worcester Cathedral Library has a very valuable collection of printed books, many of the latter end of the 15th and of the beginning of the 16th century. It has several old printed Chronicles, particularly the Nuremberg Chronicale of 1493, cum figuris et imaginibus ab initio mundi. It has also a very complete set of the Fathers; and two or three of those beautiful Missals, with most admirable engravings, printed at Antwerp, at the press of Plantin, 1677, in a blank leaf of which, if it were of any consequence, is added, E Sacello regalis Jacobi 2^{di}, qui hoc Missali illic inter orandum quotidie usus est.

Many

* See a Review of the Text of Milton's Paradise Lost, in which the chief of Dr. Bentley's emendations are considered, without a name, but by Bishop Pearce, and Mr. Lofft's edition of the two first books of the first edition of the Paradise Lost.

† Publii Terentii Vita quam a Codice MS. Oxoniensi descripsit Abr. Gronovius. Westerhovii prefat. ad Terentium, p. 32.

Many and some valuable MSS. are also in this Library, to the amount of between two and three hundred, all different articles, but not so many different volumes, as Jerome's Bibles, MSS. of different *Services*, writings of the Fathers, Roll of the property of the Cathedral and College, 1390; a most beautiful and complete Psalterium, with an English Version and Commentary, written, probably, by Wickliffe, or one of his disciples. There are also several MSS. of Classics; Claudian de raptu Proserpinæ, Horace's Odes, Lucan, Juvenal and Persius, Virgil's Eclogues, Macrobius, Seneca, Cicero de Amicitia, and Quintilian's Declamations. But I must confine my attention now to a particular New Testament, as most proper to this place, and as more particularly descriptive of the religious sentiments of the Lollards, in the 14th century.

This was Wickliffe's own Testament, who was prebendary of the collegiate church of Westbury, in the diocese of Worcester, and county of Gloucester. It is translated from the Latin Vulgate, and *literally*. There is a very fine MS. copy of Jerome's Bible in this Library, and, if I am rightly informed (and it seems most probably to be the case), this is the very copy from which Wickliffe translated. The Vulgate was considered as a most authentic copy of the scriptures at this time, and with the originals, probably, Wickliff was not acquainted himself. It should seem from Wickliff's translation of Paul's Epistles, that he held the doctrine of absolute predestination, as it is more at large unfolded in CALVIN'S INSTITUTES: and from his Translation of the Account of John's Baptism in Matthew, that his idea of the mode of baptism was the same as that expressed in the Salisbury Service-Book; though it is well known that his opinion on the saving effect of baptism was deemed heretical, at least he maintained, that infants, dying unbaptized, might yet be saved. Matth. iii. 6. is translated, "and thei weren waischen of him in Jordan." Ver. 11. "I waische you in water in to penaunce."—His translation of Matth. iii. 4. is singular, *and his mete was hony soukis and hony of the wode.*" Jerome reads it, Locustæ et mel Sylvestre.

The order of this translation goes thus: "Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, 12 Epistles of Poule, 7 small Epistles, the Dedes of the Apostles, and the Apocalyps, which ben fulli of autoriti of byleve." In St. John's College Library, at Oxford, there is the translation of the whole Bible, Old and New Testament, said to be *written* by Wickliff, given by Archbishop Laud to that College: and Laud was as likely to have such a book as any man in England: though it being written in so beautiful a manner, in the best manner of the 14th century, one might be led to think, that the *writing* part is rather to be referred to a scribe of that age. But these are points not to be enquired into now.

G. DYER.

Cambridge.

P. S. In the former number, speaking of D'Orville's Euclid in the Bodleian, I observed, that the prepositions adhered to the cases, and it

it happens often enough, to authorize what is there said: but D'Orville himself was hasty in saying, that all the prepositions (omnes prepositiones) were so placed; the fact being, that they are as often, or rather oftener separated from their cases. This peculiarity of joining the prepositions to the cases is not uncommon, at least in MSS. of the 9th and 10th centuries, as well Latin as Greek.

I omitted noticing in its proper place, in my last, that for the hint relative to the mistake concerning Sancti Albani I was indebted to the gentleman who for many years has so ably filled the office of Librarian to the Bodleian Library.

ERRATA in the former number, p. 134, for *quam* read *quem*; for *totulum* read *tilulum*. p. 137, for *Frontis* read *Fontis*; for *incepit* read *incipit*. p. 138, *at the* end *of the Salisbury Service*, dele Salisbury. In the 19th number also of the Athenæum, p. 44, 9th line from the bottom, for *vocation* read *location*. In the 18th number, p. 552, l. 30, transverse *Alexandrine* and *Cambridge*. p. 556, l. 2, for the first o read ɵ.

MEMOIRS OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

BIOGRAPHIC NOTICE OF THE ABBE' CORDARA.

JULIUS CESAR CORDARA, one of the learned Jesuits who survived the extinction of their society, was born in Alexandria de la Paglia, in 1704. He was the second son of the Count of Calamandrana, in the Upper Monferrat, descended from a noble and ancient family, originally from Nice.

Having, in his very infancy, evinced a quick and lively conception, a calm and sweet temper, and a great fondness for study, he was, by his sagacious father, soon brought to Rome; and, in that metropolis, under the immediate inspection of an uncle, a dignitary of the church, he was placed in the Roman college, governed by the Jesuits, and then in the zenith of its literary fame.

Either from the influence of his friends, or, what is more probable, from his own inclination, in 1718, being not more than 14 years old, he entered the society; and so rapid was his farther progress in the career of learning, that in the 20th year of his age he was employed as a teacher in the college of Viterbo, and then gradually preferred to those of Fermo and of Ancona, and, lastly, to that of Rome.

Although regularly instituted in universal literature, he then evinced a peculiar predilection for those three branches for which he was ever after so justly celebrated—oratory, poetry, and history.

At the age of 23, he first appeared before the public in an elegant discourse on the political and literary merit of the founder of the Roman college, Pope Gregory XIII., which was soon followed by an equally

equally elegant Latin satyr, "In fatuos numerorum divinatores, vulgo Caballistas." If any literary production of that age had a tendency to expose to ridicule, if not entirely to destroy a vulgar and gross prejudice, it was surely this; for it is a known fact, that a sect then existed in Italy among the inferior people, who professed to divine the future prizes in the lotteries, by means of astrological calculations. The Abbé Lorenzini, one of the best poets of that time, and *Custode* of the *Arcadia*, was so delighted with this performance, that he presently sent to young Cordara the diploma of member of that academy, with the name of "*Panemo Cisseo*," the name under which he afterwards published several of his poetical works.

His talents for dramatic poetry became known when he was 30 years of age. In 1735, the princess Clementina, niece of John Sobiesky, king of Poland (queen of the titular James III.) died at Rome, and, owing to her truly excellent qualities, her death was much lamented by her husband and children, and by all her friends and admirers. The Abbé Cordara thought of paying a tribute to her memory, by an allegoric drama, entitled, *The Death of Nice*. The drama was acted first in Rome, and then in Tivoli and other parts, with the highest success; and such was the merit of the poetry and style, that it soon went through several editions, one of which was accompanied with appropriate remarks by the celebrated Marquis Eugenio Guasco, and gave reason to suppose, that had Cordara professedly attended to dramatic poetry, he might have proved a rival to Metastasio himself. By this allegoric drama he highly ingratiated himself with the abdicated royal family established at Rome.

These were the works for which, in his youth, Cordara was distinguished. In his riper years he was the author of performances of much higher importance. Among these, that which in order of time, and, perhaps, also in order of merit, first offers itself to our notice, is his excellent satires on the literary spirit of the age, published under the name of "L. Sectanus," in 1737, and entitled, "L. Sectani, q. Fil. de tota Graeculorum hujus ætatis litteratura." Some of the most prominent features of the scientific and literary spirit of the eighteenth century, and those, indeed, which, most of all, render it superior to any former enlightened age, are the universal analysis, the encyclopedic institution, and the methods of popular instruction—three capital improvements for which the century may justly congratulate itself. Nevertheless, whether the analytic spirit have not too much obtruded upon subjects of taste; whether the systems of universal erudition have no tendency to produce superficiality of knowledge; and whether, in fine, the popularity of the sciences do not occasion some disregard for depth of learning, are questions not easily to be solved. Let the matter, however, be as it may, it is certain as a fact, that at the period to which Cordara's satires refer, a class of half-learned men existed in Italy, as well as in the rest of civilized Europe, who, with an insolent and dogmatic spirit, and with the most assuming and disgusting manners, thought themselves authorized to condemn the existing literary institutions, the classification of sciences,

sciences, the methods of teaching, and even the principles of taste. To expose and ridicule these self-appointed legislators of human understanding was the object of the author in his satires; and in this he succeeded beyond, perhaps, his own expectation. The work was highly approved by the learned; and it rapidly went through seven editions, the sixth of which was in Holland, and the seventh in Germany: it was bitterly criticised, merely from personal motives, by the Abbé Lami; as this excellent journalist thought that he was the leading figure, whom, under the name of *Rullo*, the author had introduced into one of the satires.

In 1742, the place being then become vacant, the Abbé Cordara was appointed historiographer of his order. Accordingly, in 1750, he published, in elegant Latin, two volumes in folio, intended as a continuation of those which had already been written by his predecessors, and containing the history of the order, under the generalate of Mutio Vitelleschi (the sixth general, we believe) who governed it from 1615 to 1645—"Historia Societatis Jesu, Pars sexta, complecten res gestas sub Mutio Vitellesco." Here some of our readers will, perhaps, ask, why this well-deserving author chose to write the greater part of his publications in Latin; and to this question we answer, that many others in Italy then followed a similar practice. If, again, it be asked, why so late as the middle of the eighteenth century some eminent authors in Italy chose to write in Latin, we answer, that they considered this circumstance as an additional merit; but this answer requires a commentary. The Italians have always regarded themselves as the best Latinists in modern times; and this pretension is, perhaps, not over-rated; for, the great affinity between their vernacular language and the Latin, the Liturgy of the church, and the transactions of the bar, both performed in Latin, give them a great advantage over all the other inhabitants of Europe in feeling the Latin idiom. They are, however, mistaken, if they consider this as a real merit; for, besides the impossibility of expressing, with propriety and precision, all our ideas, all our new discoveries, in a dead language, nobody will ever see the reason why, even in scientific intercourse, the Latin language should still be the organ of communication, when the modern languages are so much improved and generalised. On the contrary, every body, perhaps, will be inclined to think, that too much attention towards the dead languages may be an obstacle to the improvement of the living idioms. And, upon this principle, we should not wonder if we were told that the extensive use of the Latin in Italy is one of the reasons why the Italian prose has never reached that degree of perfection of which it is naturally capable, and why, on the contrary, it has been taxed with want of precision and perspicuity in the analysis of ideas. The merit, therefore, either of Cordara, or of any other of his contemporaries in Italy, with respect to their Latinity, if reduced to its proper standard, will be estimated at a low rate. It must, however, be acknowledged, that this Jesuit was one of the most pure and elegant Latinists of his time, and that the work which has occasioned these observations was really

really written in a masterly style. The famous Castruccio Bonamici, himself an elegant Latinist and historian, although a professed enemy of the order to which Cordara belonged, in a letter of 30th October, 1751, speaks of his works in the following terms: "Ea certe in eo libro sententiarum vis, is splendor verborum, ut si Cicero scripsisset historiam non fuisse aliter scripturum putem." Nor less flattering was the eulogy bestowed on the author by the editors of the "Bibliotheque des Sciences" in Holland, who, tom. i. art. 6, p. 89, called him, "La plus belle plume de l'Italie."

This large historical performance two years after was followed by another, of less bulk, but, perhaps, more curious—"Caroli Odoardi Stuartii, Walliae principis, expeditio in Scotiam, Libris IV. comprehensa." The author attached the highest importance to this work, both in respect to the matter and to the style; and, notwithstanding his characteristic modesty, he was not sorry to hear it called his master-piece by his friends. It might be wished, indeed, that this book had been imported into England; for, having been written on original and immediate communications from the Pretender himself and his followers, it would, in all probability, throw new light on the remarkable event which constituted its subject.

We shall mention one more historical work from the pen of Cordara; and that is, the "History of the Germanic and Hungarian College at Rome," published in 1770. This publication is far from being on a matter of universal concern; its subject is local, or, at most, national; and it has, perhaps, no other merit at present, than as being one of those numberless compilations of partial or local history of literature which appeared in Italy in the latter half of the last century; although, like all the rest, it may, some time or other, prove a valuable repository of materials for works of a higher order in literary history.

The Abbé Cordara had already passed the greatest part of his life in profound tranquillity. Far from possessing that misanthropic turn which very often belongs to literary characters in claustral life, he had lived, both in Rome and in the adjacent villas, with persons the most distinguished either by rank or dignity: his apartment in the college was one of the principal rendezvous of men of talents; and all were charmed with his sprightly and appropriate *bons mots*, his amiable manners, and especially with his humanity and cordiality. He was, however, involved in the storm which fell upon his order, under the pontificate of Ganganelli. The two powerful princes of the house of Bourbon had waged war against the Jesuits, and, to adopt an expression from the late Mr. Burke, "persecuted monks with the spirit of a monk." At their request, the general of the order, Laurentio Ricci, was arbitrarily confined in the castle of St. Angelo; and other conspicuous members were subjected to restrictions of several kinds, by the Roman magistrates. Cordara, apprehending that some measures might be taken against him also, in 1772 left Rome, although with the greatest regret, and retired to Turin.

Neither, however, by this removal, nor by the extinction of his

order, in the subsequent year, nor even by his advanced age, was he prevented from exerting his intellectual powers with success. On the contrary, it is remarkable that he then resumed his juvenile pursuits in poetry and belles lettres. He composed his drama, "the Deliverance of Betulia," which, by no means, impaired his reputation, or betrayed any decay in his powers. He also then wrote his burlesque poem, "the Foundation of Nice," which is accounted one of the best performances of the kind; his "Essay on Military Eclogues" (a subject till then, perhaps, untouched); and, so late as 1783, a very judicious eulogy of Metastasio, deceased in the preceding year.

During his residence in Turin, the Abbé Cordara often visited his native place, Alexandria; but he waved all the burdensome marks of respect which were intended for him by his townsmen. Towards the close of his life he constantly resided there, but it was in a secular college, with the greatest simplicity and modesty.

Julius Cesar Cordara died in 1790. His historical eulogy was written of him by his countryman, the Marquis Charles Guasco, the son, we suppose, of Eugenius, who had been the editor of the pastoral drama, the Death of Nice: and the municipal government of Alexandria decreed, that in the hall of the palace of the city an honorary inscription, on marble, should be placed to perpetuate his memory. He left behind him a great number of manuscripts, which, according to common report, were to be arranged and published by his pupil and friend, the Abbé Carrara, of Rome. It is not in our knowledge whether this design was ever carried into execution. The printed works of this writer, however, which we have mentioned, are of sufficient merit to entitle him to biographical record.

F. D.

ADDITIONAL NOTICE OF THE PERFORMANCES OF THE LATE ANGELICA KAUFFMAN.

In the biographic sketch of this excellent female artist, inserted in the 18th number of the Athenæum, we detailed her labours so late as the year 1795, and we concluded (p. 561) that "she had not ever after produced any work that could, in point of invention, come into competition with the greatest of those which we had already noticed." We have since received a more correct information; and from this we are enabled to state, that, from the year 1796 to 1799, notwithstanding her already advanced age, Angelica Kauffman executed works which rivalled any that had previously issued from her pencil, and would be competent of themselves alone to give her the rank which she already occupied among modern artists.

In 1796 she finished a large and beautiful picture, representing our Saviour in that peculiarly interesting scene where he says, "Suffer the little children to come unto me." The surrounding disciples, the mothers pressing forward with their infants, and the children receiving

ing the blessing, were, as might have been expected, uncommonly beautiful: but, in the countenance of the divine Redeemer, Angelica transcended her usual excellence, blending in it a combination of majesty and meekness, which must have been extremely difficult to represent. Majesty or dignity alone was comparatively easy to a mind like her's, accustomed to sublime ideas; meekness and humility still more so: but to unite these two characters with propriety required all the efforts of her genius.

At the request of an English gentleman of great respectability, in 1797 and 1798, Angelica painted several historical pictures, of which the most remarkable are accounted, the Discovery of Achilles at the Court of Lycomedes, and the portrait, as large as life, of the artist herself, between painting and music. But the public were still more indebted to the same gentleman for affording her the occasion of executing the picture of "Religion," one of the largest and most complicated of her productions; and the history of this performance is too curious not to require some details.

In an age of false philosophy and extreme licentiousness it was the avowed design of Angelica to employ her pencil in promoting religion and virtue. The above-mentioned gentleman, whilst in Rome, being informed of the circumstance, had represented to her the sublime description of Religion and her lovely train, as given in a sermon of the late Dr. Horne, bishop of Norwich, and had afterwards engaged her to compose for him a picture on that exalted theme. The very words of the amiable prelate, whilst describing the subject, will, in our conception, indirectly evince the merit of the picture. "Behold this delightful family, graced by one, in whose air reigns native dignity, and in whose countenance majesty and meekness sit, enthroned together. We acknowledge at once, the queen of heaven, fair Religion, with her lovely train; Faith, ever musing on the holy books; Hope, resting on her sure anchor, and looking forwards to celestial joys; Charity, blessed with her several infants, thinking no ill of any one, and doing good to every one; Repentance, with gleams of comfort, brightening a face of sorrow, like the sun shining through a watery cloud; Devotion, with her eyes fixed on heaven; Patience, smiling at affliction; Peace, encircled by an olive wreath, and nursing her gentle dove; and Joy, with an anthem book, singing an hallelujah." It is almost unnecessary to add, that as in this sublime passage, so in the painting of Angelica, every christian virtue was completely characterized; and it is sufficient to repeat what the artist herself said of it, in a letter to the proprietor in 1798: "I have the satisfaction to hear it approved by all those who see it; and even the French generals have bowed to your *Religion*."

These historical paintings were sent to England during the short interval of peace in 1802. They were shewn to the late Mr. Barry, who expressed his admiration of them with the enthusiasm of genius blended with the judgment of a connoisseur.

F. D.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

HYMN TO HEALTH.*

Ἄρατε μοῦ δέμας· ὀρθῦτε κάρη.
Λελύμαι μελέων σύνδεσμα. EURIPID.

Ὁ δ' ὀλίζος ὃν κε σὺ θέμεν
Προφρων τιμησεις· τῳ δ' αφθονα πάντα πάρεις. HOMER.

HITHER turn thee, rosy Maid!
Turn—to give the wretched aid!
Power I reck not: wealth I spurn:
Hither, heavenly Vision, turn!

With thy vivid, vermil hue,
Tinge my faded cheek anew:
Stay the withering griefs that soil;
Where they trickled, plant a smile;
And kindle thro' my sparkling eye
The beams of radiant ecstacy.

Ah! let not Spring disclose in vain
The treasures of her orient reign!
Nor Flora blushing, summon all
But me, to Nature's festival!
Behold the whispering zephyrs rove,
And piercing sweetness thrills the grove;
The fields their freshest verdure wear,
And laughs around the childish year.
Then haste thee, lovely Dryad, turn!
Nor leave me singly thus to mourn.

Hand in hand let's skirt the mead,
Fast by the twinkling aspen shade:
Let us thrid the dewy vale,
Where the rill glitters to the gale;
Or the tangling grass among,
Steals it's latent tricklings on.
The bordering upland climb we now,
And from it's scene-commanding brow,
Beneath a shadowy group of trees,
On pillowing verdure stretch'd at ease,
Let's view the mingled prospect round;
Flowery lawn, and fallow ground;

Oxen,

* Written at Christ Church, in 1784; Ætat. 18. The author is supposed to have been the present Baron Smith, a distinguished literary and judicial character in Ireland.

Oxen, o'er the furrow'd soil,
Urging firm their annual toil:
Trim cottages that here and there,
Speckling the social tilth, appear;
And spires, that as from groves they rise,
Tell where the lurking hamlet lies:
Hills white with many a bleating throng,
And lakes, whose willowy banks along,
Herds or ruminate, or lave,
Immersing in the silent wave.
The sombre wood—the cheerful plain,
Green with the hope of future grain:
A tender blade, ere Autumn smile
Benignant on the farmer's toil,
Gild the ripe fields with mellowing hand,
And scatter plenty through the land.

On earth should dazzling summer brood,
Lead to some bosky solitude:
Pent in the leafy, wild retreat,
There let me press a moss-grown seat;
Where violets droop their purple heads;
Its fragrance the pale primrose sheds;
And where the fresh, dew-sprinkled thorn,
Showers of roses wild adorn:
There listening to the Mantuan swain,
Warbling his simplest rural strain,
Let no rude cry mine ear invade:
No clamour start the tranquil shade:
But softly shuddering, let the breeze,
In meshes snared of rustling trees,
Shake coolness from his wings, and sound,
Cull'd from the peaceful haunts around;
(Strains that for musing Poets made,
Steal from the world, and seek the shade;)
Or distant city's wafted cry,
Lull'd to a murmur, ere it die.

These from without while Zephyrs glean,
Be sound as soothing caught within.
Let, from a neighbouring thicket's gloom,
Beneath the sweetbriar's tender bloom,
A gushing rill be heard to chide;
Let it run sparkling by my side:
Let thrushes pour their melody;
The bees "*their murmuring labours ply;*"
Along the tumid verdure roam,
Imbibe the honey-suckle's bloom,

And

And cling to every bending flower,
Whose beauties veil the golden shower.

Such strains the softened soul compose;
Lull every mental gust that blows:
Such fairy joys fell woe beguile;
Teach the care-clouded front to smile;
The throes assuage of thorny pain;
And gently,—faltering life sustain.

But thou, fair *Health*, thy aid impart;
Breathe warmth and vigour o'er my heart!
My languors charm,—my pangs allay,
And feed and fan the vital ray:
Then quick to daisied meadows bring,
And yield me to the fostering spring!
Haste lovely Dryad! quickly turn!
And bid me—bid me—cease to mourn.

STANZAS,

BY CHARLOTTE RICHARDSON.

Written in May, 1808, *when under the pressure of severe distress.*

MONTH after month its course has run,
Yet still no dawn of hope I see;
No more will health's reviving sun
E're shine on me.

Cheerless to me the dawn of day,
While sinking 'neath stern sickness' power,
Meridian sun, or evening grey,
Or midnight hour.

For fierce disease his bow has bent,
And pierced me with his keenest dart,
While pain my vital strength has spent,
And chill'd my heart.

Beneath his power I strive in vain
In balmy rest my eyes to close,
From opium's aid alone I gain
A short repose.

O! when will all these sorrows cease,
Whose weight o'erpowers my fainting breast;
When shall this fluttering heart find peace,
And be at rest?

Be

Be still, my soul, with patience wait,
And meekly bear the chastening rod;
Remember, all thy suffering state
Is known to God.

Doubt not his care and tender love,
Although his dealings seem severe;
Strive by affliction to improve;
And Him revere.

What! though disease thy days consume!
Soon death will bring a sweet release,
And thou within the silent tomb
Shalt rest in peace.

Dust unto dust shall thou return,
While the immortal soul shall fly,
By heavenly messengers upborne,
To God on high.

LITERARY AND MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION.

Mrs. Cappe is preparing for the press a complete history of the Life of Christ, as related by the four Evangelists; interweaving into one continued narrative their several accounts of the miracles performed in proof of his mission, of his prophetic warnings, awful admonitions, moral precepts, and various controversies with the Jewish rulers, terminating in his crucifixion, resurrection, and final remuneration. She has endeavoured to ascertain as nearly as possible the order of time in which these several discourses, and the extraordinary events which gave rise to them, took place, in the hope of exciting an increasing interest in the perusal of the sacred records, by exhibiting a more comprehensive view of the whole ministry of Christ, and thereby throwing additional light on many exceedingly important and beautiful passages. The whole is illustrated by a series of notes explanatory of eastern phraseology, of ancient customs, manners, opinions, and prejudices; formerly transcribed by the editor from the short-hand papers of her late husband, the Rev. Newcome Cappe. The work is divided into sections, and at the close of each section such practical reflections deduced as naturally arise out of the subject.

Mr. C. A. Elton will shortly publish a translation, in English verse, of the Remains of Hesiod, the Ascræan; accompanied with a Dissertation on the Poetry and Mythology, the Life and Era of Hesiod.

The author of "Letters from the Mountains," has a new work in the press.

Dr. E. Clarke, of Cambridge, is printing an account of his Travels in Russia, the Crimea, &c.

The second volume of Wool's Life of Dr. J. Warton is nearly ready for publication.

Mr. Boothroyd is reprinting Bishop Newcome's Version of the Minor Prophets, with additional notes from Blaney and Horseley on Hosea.

The second volume of Mr. Chalmers's Caledonia is in the press.

Dr. Forbes, of Edinburgh, is engaged on a translation of Pliny's Natural History, with notes and illustrations, a life of the author, and a preliminary dissertation on the origin of natural history, and on its progress and gradual improvement from its infancy to its present state of comparative maturity. One great object of the translator will be to accommodate Pliny's description o f animals, plants, and minerals, to the nomenclature of the Systema Naturæ Linnæi.

The

The Rev. Thomas Broadhurst, of Bath, will shortly publish a small volume in 8vo., containing observations addressed to the young Ladies of Mrs. Broadhurst's establishment for education in that city, on the great necessity and importance of mental cultivation; also a review of a regular course of various reading on subjects of science and literature; together with advice and directions for the conduct of females in genteel life on their entrance into the world.

St. THOMAS's and GUY's HOSPITALS.

The Autumnal Course of Lectures at these adjoining Hospitals will commence the beginning of October; viz.

AT ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL:

Anatomy and the Operations of Surgery, by Mr. CLINE and Mr. COOPER.
Principles and Practice of Surgery, by Mr. COOPER.

AT GUY'S HOSPITAL:

Practice of Medicine, by Dr. BABINGTON and Dr. CURRY.
Chemistry, by Dr. BABINGTON, Dr. MARCET, and Mr. ALLEN.
Experimental Philosophy, by Mr. ALLEN.
Theory of Medicine, and Materia Medica, by Dr. CURRY & Dr. CHOLMELEY.
Midwifery, and Diseases of Women and Children, by Dr. HAIGHTON.
Physiology, or Laws of the Animal Œconomy, by Dr. HAIGHTON.
Occasional Clinical Lectures on Select Medical Cases, by Dr. BABINGTON, Dr. CURRY, and Dr. MARCET.
Structure and Diseases of the Teeth, by Mr. FOX.

N. B. These several Lectures are so arranged, that no two of them interfere in the hours of attendance; and the whole is calculated to form a *Complete Course of Medical and Chirurgical Instruction*. Terms and other particulars may be learnt at the respective Hospitals.

An interesting analysis of Coffee has lately been made by M. Cadet, apothecary in ordinary to the French Imperial household, from which it appears that the berries contain mucilage in abundance, much gallic acid, a resin, a concrete essential oil, some albumen, and a volatile aromatic principle. To these may be added such as are found in most vegetables, viz. lime, pot-ash, charcoal, iron, &c. Roasting developes the soluble principles; but it ought to be moderated, if it be wished to preserve the æroma, and not decompose the acid, the gum, and the resin. Mocha coffee is of all other kinds most aromatic and resinous. M. Cadet advises that coffee be neither roasted nor infused till the day it is intended to be drunk.

Mr. Charles Thomson, of Philadelphia, late Secretary to the Congress of the United States, has announced his intention of publishing a new translation of the Scriptures, the Old Testament from the Septuagint Greek, and the New from the most correct Greek text.

Kentucky has been distinguished almost ever since its discovery by white men, for the extraordinary number and size of the bones found at different depths, from one to twenty feet, in the neighbourhood of the *licks*, or places resorted to by wild animals to regale themselves with briny water, that oozed out at those spots. The place most celebrated for these animal remains, and particularly for those of the undiscovered quadruped, called the Mammoth, are generally distinguished by the name of the Big-bone-lick. In addition to the wonders of fossil zoology heretofore afforded by the Big-bone-lick, from time to time, since the settlement of the country, a large and curious collection was made during the year 1807, by Capt. Clarke. This gentleman, since his return to his own country, from the expedition to the Western ocean, toward the end of 1806, employed persons during the following summer in digging from the earth, at the before-mentioned place, some of the animal relics with which it abounds. These he found in great plenty. He packed up an assortment

ment of them in boxes, and shipped them down the Ohio and Missisippi to New Orleans, addressed to the President of the United States. Thence they were forwarded to the seat of the national government, and arrived there in good order about the beginning of March, 1808. This collection was seen by Dr. Mitchill, and described by him under the following several heads. 1. Many dozens of the smaller bones of the *huge incognitum*, which seem to have belonged to the feet, and may serve to complete the whole compages belonging to those parts, by enabling anatomists to complete imperfect skeletons already in their possession. 2. Bones of the legs, for the purpose of being connected with the former. 3. Bones of the head and upper jaw, which promise to display more of the structure of those perishable parts than has hitherto been possible. 4. Two kinds of teeth, of very large size, and detached from the jaws: some of these teeth are of the common form, resembling those of carnivorous animals, and the others have the shape and structure of elephant's grinders. 5. Fragments of lower maxillary bones, containing the grinders fixed in their sockets. These jaws are broken through the symphysis of the chin, and none are entire. 6. An enormous outer tooth or horn, resembling the tusk of an elephant, but of a vastly greater size. Though this is decayed at both extremities, it consists plainly enough of ivory. It has a singular spiral curvature, and is about — feet in length. 7. Several smaller tusks, the least of which is about three feet long. They are of great specific gravity, decayed and broken at the ends, and disposed to split and crumble to pieces when exposed to the air. 8. Ribs of the shape common to these mammoth skeletons. 9. The skulls and clints of bisons, dug up in the same ground with the former. But though the horns are wanting, their osseous core, pith, or projection, remains. 10. Very large vertebræ.

One of the most zealous cultivators of mineralogy in the United States, is Col. George Gibbs, of Rhode-Island. And his taste and his fortune have concurred in making him the proprietor of the most extensive and valuable assortment of minerals that probably exists in America. This rich collection consists of the cabinets possessed by the late Mons. Gigot D'Orcy, of Paris, and the Count Gregoire de Razamowsky, a Russian nobleman, long resident in Switzerland. To which the present proprietor has added a number, either gathered by himself on the spot, or purchased in different parts of Europe. The collection of M. D'Orcy is particularly rich in the productions of the French mines: such as the phosphates, carbonates, and molybdates of lead; the iron ores of Bangory, Framont, and the Isle of Elba: the silver of St. Maria and d'Allamont; the mercury of Deuxponts; a great variety of marbles, calcedonies and agates, quartz, calcareous, and other spars from France and different parts of Europe. The collection of the Count Razamowsky consists chiefly of the minerals of the Russian empire. It is particularly rich in gold and copper ores, chromates of lead, the native iron of Pallas, Beryls, Jaspers, &c. The Russian specimens alone are about six thousand in number. The remainder are chiefly German and Swiss. To these Mr. Gibbs has added all the newly-discovered minerals, a complete collection of English, Swiss, and Italian specimens, including the ancient marbles, porphyries, &c. the muriates and carbonates of copper from Chili; the spinel and oriental rubies, of which this is the third complete collection existing. Also, a large geological collection. The whole consists of about twenty thousand specimens. A small part of this collection was opened to amateurs at Rhode-Island, the last summer, and the next, if circumstances permit, the remainder will be exposed.

The legislature of Maryland, on the 18th of December, 1807, passed "An Act for founding a Medical College in the City or Precincts of Baltimore, for the Instruction of Students in the different Branches of Medicine." This institution is established upon a liberal plan, and incorporated in perpetuity. It consists of a board called the *Regents of the College of Medicine of Maryland*. formed from the existing board of medical examiners for the commonwealth, and the president and professors appointed by the act. It may hold a property to a value not exceeding thirty thousand dollars, exclusive of a lot and buildings. The regents may appoint professors and lecturers, who shall form one learned body, under the name of the *Medical Faculty*, with power to choose their dean, and to do what is necessary for conveying instruction and support-

ing discipline. The *Regents* must meet at least once a year. The faculty shall hold at least one term annually, to begin on the first Monday in November, and continue not less than four nor more than six months. At convenient times commencements may be held, and degrees in surgery and medicine be granted, after due examination and other proofs of sufficiency. Each student must have attended each course of lectures at least once, and frequented the classes of the college for two terms; and he must also have been privately and publicly examined, and have printed and defended a thesis, before he can be admitted to the honours of the college. The Professors appointed by the Act are, John B. Davidge, M. D. and James Cocke, M. D. joint Professors of Anatomy, Surgery, and Physiology; George Brown, M. D. Professor of the Practice and Theory of Medicine; John Shaw, M. D. Professor of Chemistry; Thomas E. Bond, M. D. Professor of Materia Medica; William Donaldson, M. D. Professor of the Institutes of Medicine. The *Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland* are appointed the Patrons and Visitors of the college; and their President is declared to be the Chancellor.

THE PRESENT STATE OF THE CLARENDON PRESS.

So many valuable books, particularly in classical and oriental literature, have been published by the University of Oxford during the last fifty years, that it will gratify, we doubt not, some of our readers to know what has been lately done, and what is now doing, at the Clarendon press.

Dr. White, author or editor of many well-known works, has just published the second volume of his Novum Testamentum Græcum; with the various readings, which, in Greisbach's judgment, are to be preferred, or to be considered as equal to the received text. It is not necessary to add, that the learned Professor published Testamenti Novi Versionem Syriacam Philoxenianam at the Clarendon press in 1778, the Diatessaron in 1803, and the Specimen Historiæ Arabum, by Dr. Pococke, in 1806; nor that he has also published the Political and Military Institutes of Tamerlane, with a first volume of Ægyptiaca. A second volume of the latter will not be published by Dr. White, as intended. But the learned Professor, Anthony Sylvestre de Saci, of Paris, editor of Chrestomathie Arabe, will give a French translation, accompanied with the Arabic original and notes, of that work, which was to have composed Dr. White's second volume. Professor White is also preparing for the press, the Sylloge Crisews Greisbach.

Mr. Mozely, a gentleman of this university, distinguished for his acquaintance with Arabic literature, has just published his Vita Abdollatiphi, in Arabic and Latin, a work to which Arabic scholars have for some time been looking with considerable expectation.

It will afford pleasure to our classical readers to hear, that a new edition of Hephæstion's Enchiridion on Greek Metres, a work much wanted, is now in the Clarendon press, and that the editor is so excellent a scholar as Mr. Gaisford, of Christ-church.

Biblical students will be glad to be informed, that though Dr. Holmes has been some time dead, his transcripts of MSS. are not lost. Of his Old Testament, from the Greek version of the Septuagint, with various readings, the Pentateuch, with the Prophet Daniel, and a General Preface, have already appeared. They were published in separate numbers. Two gentlemen of the university are now employed in collating the transcripts of MSS. brought by Dr. Holmes into this country, and another number of this work may be expected soon.

The following works are also in the press: Lowth de Sacra Poesi Hebræorum, 2 vol. 8vo. Euripides Græce, Notis Musgrave, 8vo. Sophocles Græce, notis Elmsley, 8vo. Wyttenbachi Animadversiones in Plutarchi Moralia, 4to. and 8vo. These animadversions will, in bulk, nearly equal the original work. One volume of the former has not yet appeared, but is in great forwardness. Andronici Rhodii Ethicorum Nicomacheorum Paraphrasis, 8vo. Cicero de Oratore

Oratore, 8vo. Terentii Comœdiæ, 18mo. Shuckford's Connection of the Sacred and Profane History of the World, 2 vols. 8vo. Bishop Burnet's Abridgment of the History of the Reformation, 8vo. Herodotus ex Editione Reizii, 2 vols.—Republications, also, of Aristotle's Ethics, and Xenophon's Anabasis, are in forwardness.

That important improvement in the art of printing, called the Stereotype, so zealously promoted by the ingenious Lord Stanhope, has been introduced here. The excellence of this mode of printing, as is well known, consists in its cheapness and correctness; but, from its nature, is applied only to works of rapid sale. The only books hitherto stereotyped by Mr. Collinson, the university printer, are bibles; but, in due course of time, school-books, and other works that are in great demand, will be stereotyped.

MONTHLY LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

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Communications to the Board of Agriculture, on Subjects relative to the Husbandry and Internal Improvement of the Country. Vol. VI. part I. 4to. 15s. boards.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

The Young Sea Officer's Sheet Anchor; being a Key to the Leading of Rigging, and to Practical Seamanship. By Darcy Lever. 4to. 3l. 3s. boards.

BIOGRAPHY.

An Account of the Life and Writings of James Bruce, of Kinnard, Esq. F.R.S. Author of Travels to discover the Source of the Nile in 1768, 9, 70, 1, 2, and 3. By Alexander Murray, F.A.S.E. and Secretary for Foreign Correspondence. 4to. 1l. 12s. 6d. boards,

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The Universal Gazetteer in Miniature; being the Name and Situation of every Place in the known World, for the Use of Geographers, News-readers, and Men of Business. 2s. 6d. boards.

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London Medical Review, Number III. (to be continued quarterly) price 2s. 6d.

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METEOROLOGICAL

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

		Wind.	Pressure. max.	Pressure. min.	Temp. max.	Temp. min.	Evap.	Rain, &c
New Moon	July 23	SE	29.76	29.74	85°	59°	.19	.01
	24	S	29.74	29.70	80	59	.10	.19
	25	NW	29.75	29.71	70	58	.05	.33
	26	NE	29.76	29.75	72	56	.10	.06
	27	E	29.75	29.44	75	58	.10	1.88
	28	W	29.59	29.43	67	60	.14	.29
	29	SW	29.68	29.59	78	60	.10	
1st Q.	30	SW	29.75	29.68	76	55	.14	—
	31	E	29.68	29.57	80	61	.09	.42
	Aug. 1	SW	29.74	29.52	72	57	.11	.14
	2	NW	30.06	29.74	73	56	.18	
	3	W	30.06	30.04	65	54	.08	
	4	SW	30.04	29.84	80	50	.19	
	5	SW	29.84	29.70	80	61	.17	
Full Moon	6	SW	29.78	29.70	77	59	.19	—
	7	SW	29.79	29.76	75	59	.09	.89
	8	SW	29.79	29.56	75	59	.16	.04
	9	NE	29.69	29.54	72	56	.07	.75
	10	NW	29.69	29.67	70	59	.11	
	11	W	29.73	29.66	74	50	.09	
	12	SW	29.73	29.69	78	61	.15	.01
	13	SW	29.69	29.64	70	60	.07	.09
Last Q.	14	SW	29.64	29.60	72	57	.15	—
	15	W	29.80	29.64	71	53	.16	—
	16	W	29.85	29.76	71	58	.17	—
	17	NW	30.00	29.85	68	54	.09	
	18	W	30.08	30.00	71	54	.12	
	19	NW	30.14	30.08	71	48	.07	
	20	Var.	30.16	30.14	76	53	.10	
			29.81	29.72	73.93	56.68	T. 3.53	5.10
			M. 29.76		65.30			

N. B. The Notations comprised in each line relate to a period of 24 hours, reckoned *from* 9 a. m. on the day of the date. A dash denotes that the period so marked is to form a part of that allotted to the next observation.

INTELLIGENCE

RELATIVE TO ARTS MANUFACTURES, &c.

Patent of Mr. John Dickson, of Edward-street, Surrey, for an improved method of constructing Cocks, so as to permit fluids to pass through them in different directions. Dated March, 1808.

Mr. Dickson's patent cocks, or, more properly speaking, his sliding valves, are intended for all fluids in general, and also for steam; for the latter they have been principally used as yet, and the description of them so applied, it is thought, will give the best idea of their construction.

The sliding valve consists of a flat piece of brass, about five or six inches thick, with a rounded cavity at its under side; it is ground to fit a plate of iron so perfectly true, that air or water cannot pass between them: in this plate are two oblong apertures across the path of the valve, with an interval of three or four inches between them. The plate is screwed tightly on the steam engine, in such a manner, that one of its apertures communicates with one extremity of the great cylinder, and the other aperture with a pipe leading to the condenser: the valve and plate are inclosed in a steam-tight case, and a polished rod passes through a stuffing box in one side of this case, by which the valve is moved back and forwards in the usual way for causing this motion: a pipe passes from the valve-case to the boiler to admit steam; and a spring is fixed at the top of the case, that presses against the sliding rod, and keeps the valve close against the plate. The breadth of the cavity in the valve is such as to include within it the two apertures at once; and when the valve lies in this position, the passage from the cylinder to the steam is stopped, and that to the condenser is opened through its cavity; but on sliding the valve back, so that it shall no longer cover the aperture of the cylinder, the steam enters the cylinder at once, and all communication with the condenser is cut off. In this way the aperture leading to the condenser is always under the cavity of the valve, and that to the cylinder is alternately covered by it, and left open.

The same valve may be also made to direct the communication between both ends of the cylinder and the steam and condenser, by making a third aperture in the plate, similar to those described, which shall open to a pipe leading to the other extremity of the cylinder. The aperture to the condenser lies in this case between the other two, so that the cavity of the valve always covers it; and as the valve is moved back and forwards, the other two apertures are each in succession opened to the steam, and afterwards to the condenser, by being covered along with the passage to the condenser by the cavity of the valve. The valve-box may be placed equally well in a vertical as in an horizontal position.

This last-described construction of the sliding valve has the advantage in simplicity; but Mr. Dickson prefers using two of those first described instead of it, one at each end of the cylinder: as with the single valve-box, with the three apertures, a portion of steam is lost at every stroke of the engine, equal to the contents of the steam-pipe from the valve-box to the end of the cylinder, which will be in most cases at least three or four gallons, and in very large engines much more.

In the same manner that the steam is stopped from one aperture by the sliding valve described, and admitted to another, it may easily be conceived that the passage of water or any other fluid may also be directed by it, and that thus it may be applied to general purposes.

Mr. Dickson's hollow sliding valve is principally designed to supply the place of the old contrivance of the cock with four ways, without being liable to its imperfections.

imperfections. They both have the advantage, when used with steam engines, of admitting of the apparatus for working them being much more simple than that for working the common stop-valves: at a moderate calculation, the latter require from twenty-four to thirty different small pieces and joints more than the former, which makes these considerably less liable to be out of order; but the cock with four ways is liable as it wears to become uneven, particularly if used in an horizontal position, as it commonly is with steam engines; and then much steam will escape at its sides into the condenser without passing through the cylinder, while externally it may appear quite steam-tight; besides, as two cylinders can only touch each other in a line, the internal cylinder of the cock will tend to wear the external cylinder much more than flat surfaces could with the same degree of friction. It is in this point that the great advantage lies of Mr. Dickson's sliding valve over all cocks of the common construction: it must always wear true and even from its friction being entirely on flat surfaces, and will therefore be just as tight when it is old as when new. It must, therefore, answer well where steam alone is to pass, or very clean water; but for water containing any sand, or foul in other respects, sliding valves are objectionable on many accounts. Sliding valves have often before been used in steam engines, and among the number none were of a more ingenious contrivance than those of Mr. Hornblower, which moved with a circular motion on a flat surface; but Mr. Dickson's sliding valves differ from all hitherto made, in having the rounded cavity in it before described, which fits it in such an effectual and simple manner for forming a communication between two, three, or more different passages, and thus performing the same office as so many different cocks.

Patent of Mr. John Shorter Morris, of Pancras-place, Middlesex, for a Machine for Mangling. Dated Feb. 1808.

This mangling engine is composed of two horizontal rollers, fixed at a small distance from each other, whose axis bear on brass pieces let into its wooden frame; above these, and just over their interval, a roller without an axis lies, so as to press on them both; and on this roller the linen or cloth to be mangled is rolled evenly; over this last roller a fourth roller is placed, each end of whose axis lies in vertical grooves, so that it can be raised from or let down on the third roller at pleasure; from each extremity of the axis of this upper roller a piece of flat iron descends below the two first rollers, and there is attached by chains to a platform, on which iron weights are placed (to press down the roller) in the same manner as on a scale. The axis of the upper roller turns in holes drilled in these flat iron pieces, and from them two chains pass upwards to pullies attached near to each end of a horizontal shaft, placed above the framework of the engine; to the extremity of this shaft a long lever is fixed at right angles, by which it can be turned round, and the roller with the weights attached to it be raised up from that on which the cloth is wound; in which last position a hook fixed to the side of the frame retains it as long as it is thought proper.

A winch attached to the axis of any of the rollers will put the machine in motion; one is represented applied to that of the upper roller, in the figure annexed to the specification; but the patentee observes, that the machine acts best when a toothed wheel is fastened to each of the lower rollers with a pinion between them, and the winch fixed to the axis of the pinion, to which if a fly wheel is attached also, the action will be more regular. He also states, that in his opinion the moveable roller on which the cloth is wound resting on the two bottom ones, from their being placed at some distance from each other, acts as a wedge in increasing the power of the weight from the upper roller when let down on it; and he mentions that this machine performs its work with greater ease, with more expedition, and better than any others before used, and is considerably more compact.

This machine is constructed on the same principles as the common calenders, except that in them pressure from screws is generally used. It is considerably more

more compact and simple, and takes up much less room than the long box mangling engines in common use; but whether it will answer the purpose of mangling wearing apparel equally well, so as to be as fit for the use of laundresses, can be ascertained only by fair comparative experiments: if these experiments should be favourable, there can be little doubt that Mr. Morris's mangling machines ought to be preferred.

Account of farther discoveries in extracting Metals from the Earths and Alkalis.

The Swedish chemists, M. Pontin and Berzelius, have succeeded in obtaining amalgams of the metals of lime and barytes, of magnesia and of strontites, by exposing these earths moistened to negatively electrified mercury; but this method has no effect on alumen or silex. These gentlemen have also made a very interesting experiment on ammonia: they placed a solution of it in contact with mercury, negatively electrified, as in the former experiments, and thus succeeded in obtaining a soft amalgam, which proves its metallic nature.

Mr. Davy has since improved on the discovery of the Swedish chemists. The amalgam of barytes and mercury obtained by their method was distilled, and the mercury being driven off, he obtained the metal of barytes in a pure form: and by the same process he procured the metals of strontites and magnesia nearly pure. The earths are mixed with red precipitate, which is negatively electrified, the amalgam is absorbed by fresh mercury, and when it becomes semi-fluid, is distilled in the vapour of naptha in a tube of plate glass.

The above facts were communicated by Mr. Davy to the Royal Society a few weeks ago, when he also stated, that in experiments made with a Voltaic battery of 36,000 square inches, on barytes, strontites, and the other alkaline earths, and on silex and alumen; all these bodies, when slightly moistened, and acted on by iron wires negatively electrified, undergo change at the points of contact; and the metals of the earths appear to form alloys with the negatively electrified iron.

Mr. Davy likewise metallized the earths by electrifying them when mixed with the oxides of lead, of silver, or of mercury, when the metals of the earths and the common metals were revived together in the state of alloy.

Since Mr. Davy's first discovery of the metallic nature of the alkalis by the Voltaic battery in last November, several others have been made relative to them and the earths, with a rapidity seldom witnessed before on similar occasions. Soon afterwards the discovery of the French chemists was made, that the metal of potash might be obtained in large quantities, without the aid of Galvanism, by means of the superior attractions of iron and charcoal for oxigen in a strong heat, and the tendency of the new metal to form an alloy with iron; and in the foregoing short notice are contained no less than four more important discoveries; that of the Swedish chemists, of the effect of negatively electrified mercury in accelerating the metallization of the earths; and those of Mr. Davy, of the obtaining these metals pure, by the distillation of the amalgams so formed; of the operation of the oxides of lead, silver, and mercury, when electrified, in reviving the metals of the earths by forming alloys with them, and of the same effect produced by negatively electrified iron in the metallic state.

The discovery of ammonia being of a metallic nature, shews that it is probable the very air we breathe contains metal in a gazeous state; for azote, which forms a large portion of our atmosphere, has long since been proved to be a component part of ammonia.

Silex and alumen having both proved refractory to the processes which obtained metals from the other earths, gives additional weight to the old opinions of their being of the same nature, or of their being different modifications of the same substance.

The interesting discovery of a metal in potash making it necessary to give this metal a name, and some difficulty having arisen on this point, it may pro-

bably be of utility to suggest to those who must decide the matter, that a very unobjectionable name for it is to be found in the Latin word CINIS, which has before been proposed by some authors with much propriety for the designation of pure vegetable alkali. The name potash properly belongs to the impure mixture of the alkali with other substances, which is an article of commerce, and if the impropriety of giving this name to the pure alkali, has already formed a just subject of complaint; surely with much more justice may the barbarous word *Potassium* be objected to as an appellation for the metal from this substance; formed as it is by a very uncouth mixture of two most different languages. If it should be objected to the use of the word cinis for the metal, that it is already claimed to denote pure vegetable alkali, the word *cinium* will serve equally well for the name of the metal, and cinis may be used, as originally proposed, for the alkali. The word cinium is at least free from those objections which are so obvious in the word Potassium; Cinium has its composition and derivation from one language, and is sufficiently distinct from all the inflections, or cases, of the word Cinis, to prevent its ever being mistaken for any of them.

Description of an Air-tight Hinge for Doors and Screens, invented by Mr. Martin Furniss, No. 128, Strand, London.—Trans. Soc. Arts, No. 25.

If Mr. Furniss's air-tight hinge is to be used to a door, the side of the door is to be rounded so as to form an half cylinder, and a piece of wood of the same shape and breadth is to be fastened to the side of the frame of the door, so as to be in close contact with the door, when it is put up into its place; a piece of leather of the length of the door is passed then between the rounded part of the door and the corresponding side piece, so as to be inside one and outside the other, and is fastened to them where they join the flat parts of the door and frame; a section of the leather, when so fixed, would present the figure of the letter S; at the bottom, and at the top of the door, a chain, formed of flat plates, rivetted together, like that by which the main-spring moves the work of a watch, is wound round grooves in the same manner as the leather, but in the contrary direction; by this means the one keeps the other stretched tight, the chain winding on one way, when the leather winds off the other way, and the reverse; and in this manner the leather is kept smooth and even.

A small plate of brass is fastened at each extremity of the door by screws, or pivots, exactly at the axis of the two semi-cylinders of the door and side-piece, and thus form additional hinges, on the principal of the hinges commonly used in folding tables, which both make the joint stronger, and keep the rounded parts in the proper position to each other, to secure the easy action of the chains and leather, and prevent their being overstretched.

Mr. Furniss was presented by the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, with a premium of ten guineas for this invention; a model of which may be seen at their house.

Account of a Capstan, invented by Mr. John Whitley Boswell, which Works without requiring the Cable coiled round it to be surged.—Transactions of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, &c. No. 25.

The manner in which cables are hauled aboard large ships, and the management of the capstan, being known to few, except seamen, Mr. Boswell has has given a paper on the subject, and on other matters relative to capstans, to the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, in order to explain the advantages of his invention, for which the Society had before honoured him with their gold medal.

A cable coiled round a capstan must descend a space, at every revolution, equal to its own diameter; this in a few turns brings the coils to the bottom of the capstan, when it can be no longer turned round, till the coils are loosened, and raised up to the top of the capstan, after which, the motion proceeds as before. This operation of shifting the coils from the bottom to the top of the capstan is called *surging*; it always causes considerable delay, and when the coils

coils slip in changing their position, which sometimes happens, no small danger is incurred by those who work the capstan, from the cable and anchor again running out, and turning it backward with a violence which they cannot resist.

Mr. Boswell's capstan is contrived so as to work without surging; the cable comes off at one end of it as fast as it is coiled on at the other; no delay or cessation is necessary in working it, and all danger to the men is prevented. It is properly a double capstan, as it consists of two barrels, one of the size of the common capstan, and the other about as large as an half barrel cask, placed a little before it. The coils of the cable, or other rope used, are to be passed alternately round each of the two barrels, but with their direction reversed, so that they may cross each other in the space between the two barrels as they pass from one to the other, in order that they may have a greater contact with, and better gripe on each. To keep the coils distinct, and prevent their touching each other in passing from one barrel to the other, projecting rings are fastened round each barrel, at a distance from each other equal to about two diameters of the cable, and the thickness of the ring; they are to be placed so on the different barrels, that those on one barrel shall be exactly opposite the middle of the intervals between those on the other barrel, and they should project about as much as the diameter of the cable. The small barrel should be furnished with falling palls as well as the large one; a fixed iron spindle ascending from the deck will be best for it, as it will take up least room; this spindle can be secured below the deck, by a cross piece properly joined to it, so as to bear any strain it will have to sustain. As the small barrel need not be much above half the height of the large barrel, the capstan bars will easily pass over it in heaving round, when it is thought fit to use them on the same deck with the small barrel. Both barrels may be formed with whelps, and in every other respect not before mentioned, in the usual manner for capstan barrels, except that the whelps should not be inclined inwards at the top, but stand upright all round, so as to give the body of the capstan the surface of a polygonal prism, in order that the coils of the cable may have an equal tension at the top as at the bottom of the barrels, which could not be the case if they were of a conical form. Two or three turns of the cable round the two barrels will in most cases be sufficient.

The principle on which the double capstan is formed, is equally applicable to windlasses; in vessels where they are used, a small barrel may be placed horizontally parallel to the body of the windlass, before it, and as much below its level as circumstances will admit. The additional barrel should be furnished with catch palls, and both it and the windlass should be fitted with rings in the same way, as the capstan already described.

Three other methods are described in the same paper, which have been tried to prevent surging; one of which is proved to be complicated, and difficult to repair if injured at sea, all three cause great additional friction and wear to the cables, and the last of them therein mentioned, by its conical shape, causes the coils to loosen as they are forced upwards. Mr. Boswell's capstan is entirely free from these defects, it saves the cable from wearing, keeps the coils equally tight in all parts, and if damaged by shot at sea, can be easily put in order by a common ship wright.

The following is the manner in which cables are hauled aboard large ships:—cables above a certain diameter are too inflexible to admit of being coiled round a capstan. In ships where cables of such large dimensions are necessary, a smaller cable is employed for this purpose, which is called the *messenger*; the two ends of which are made fast together, so as to form an endless rope, which, as the capstan is turned about, revolves round it in unceasing succession, passing on its course to the head of the ship, and again returning to the capstan. To this returning part of the messenger the cable is made fast, at regular intervals, by a number of small ropes, called nippers. These nippers are applied as the cable enters the hawse-hole, and are again removed as it approaches the capstan. Mr. Boswell's double capstan is to be used with the *messenger*, in the manner already described for cables.

The advantages of the principle on which the double capstans are formed, are

are not confined to the sea service; Mr. Boswell thinks that windlasses formed on the same construction might be used very beneficially at the shafts of coal pits, and mines: the cord which raises the ore or coal from these shafts, suffers considerable injury by being kept stretched tight on the barrel, on which it is wound, the greatest part of the time in which it is used; but if a double windlass, formed on the plan described, was used in drawing up the buckets, no such strain would be necessary, as the cord would pass off at one part of the windlass as fast as it was wound on at the other part. And the same principle would also be useful where two buckets were made to descend and ascend alternately, by manual labour applied to a winch; for if two horizontal arbors were used in this case, fitted up as before described, the buckets would always rise and fall exactly in the same vertical line, instead of moving from one side of the pit to the other, as they do at present, which causes them frequently to rub against the sides of the pit, and often occasions disagreable accidents. A model of the double capstan may be seen at the house of the Society in the Adelphi.

Account of the Draining the Pond of Citis, in France.—Journal des Mines. No. 116.

The pond Citis is situated to the south-west of the department of the mouth of the Rhone, at a short distance from an arm of the sea, called the pond of Berre. It is near the ponds of Lavalduc, Pourra, and Rassuen. The different quality of the water of these ponds, and their different levels, show that they have no subterranean communication, though so near to each other. The pond Citis is several feet lower than any of the others, and what is very remarkable, it is near twenty-seven feet, English measure, below the level of the sea; it is entirely surrounded by hills, having no outlet.

The waters of Lavalduc contain 16 parts of salt in the hundred. The facility with which the water of Citis might be let into it by opening a passage through the hill which separates them, and the decrease of water of Citis, after several years drought, gave rise to the salt works of Citis. These works were undertaken by a company, their plan was to prevent the addition of more fresh water, and to gradually dry up the pond, by stopping on the sides of the hills the course of the rain water, which was its sole supply. This attempt succeeded completely, and the affairs of the company were in a prosperous situation, when after a memorable winter, the pond was entirely inundated by the excessive rains, that fell for three months successively. This was owing to the neglect of the company in not keeping the canal in repair, which they had made round the sides of the hills, and thus the rain water being more abundant than what it could carry off, its weak bank was broken down, and the pond was filled.

The company were about to abandon their works on account of the great difficulty of conveying the water off over the hills, when Mr. Augustus de Jesse propossd to drain it by employing a steam engine; he proved the practicability of conveying the water by this means over the hills, though their tops were 172 feet above the bottom of the pond; and his proposal of advancing the money necessary for the work determined the company to accept his offer.

M. Jesse first repaired the canal round the sides of the hills which enclosed the pond, he raised its level considerably, so as to give it a greater descent towards the end where it discharged itself, he supported it in the steepest parts by stone causeways, and to prevent the fall of the water into it from being too forcible, diverted it as much as possible from a perpendicular direction, giving it different inclinations according to local circumstances.

At some distance from the pond, on the slope of the hill, the steam engine is erected. A well is there sunk to a level below that of the bottom of the pond, and from its bottom an horizontal gallery, arched over completely, is carried to the pond at the distance of 320 feet. This gallery conveys the water from the pond to the well. In the well are two pumps, and close to it is the steam engine, which works them both alternately by means of a double crank.

crank. Adjoining the pumps in the well are two vertical pipes, communicating with them, and united at the mouth of the well by an elbow or fork. The part where they unite is fitted to a large cast-iron pipe 450 feet long, carried up along the slope of the hill. This first hill not being so high as some of the following, it was necessary to raise the pipe upon supports of masonry, to form a common level. A wooden trough, supported on treasels, unites the top of the first hill to that of the second. This trough is 895 feet long, and at its extremity a canal commences of 2494 feet, which is cut in the rock to the mean depth of 9½ feet. To unite the summits of the various elevations in the course of the canal, it was necessary to erect several aqueduct bridges over which it is conveyed. The canal might have been cut to a less depth, by raising higher the cast-iron pipe, and consequently the wooden trough; but the wind has already sufficient hold of both these, and they must have been weakened, had they been raised higher. If the iron pipe had been made to rest on the hill, in order to dispense with the wooden trough, the canal must either have been cut to an extraordinary depth; or a tunnel of 2500 must have been cut through the rock, at a great expence, or else an addition must have been made to the iron pipe of more than 894 feet.

The steam of the engine acts upon the pumps, which draw up the water from the well, and forces it into the vertical pipes. These convey the water to the ascending cast-iron pipe, in which it rises gradually to the top of the first hill, whence it flows through the trough into the canal which discharges it into the sea.

The water contained in the cast-iron pipe acts with all its weight on the valve that separates it from the fork of the two pipes; yet such is the power of the engine, that at every stroke, of which it makes thirty-two in a minute, it not only raises a certain quantity of water through the pumps, but gives it a pressure capable of raising the whole of the water in the cast-iron pipe, which is of the weight of 4660 lbs. avoirdupois. The engine is calculated to raise 69611 cubit feet of water every twenty-four hours, making a weight of 1942¼ tuns.

Before the draining of the pond Citis, (the French writer observes) we do not believe that a steam engine has been employed for such a purpose, still less pumps moved by the usual agents, or that any attempt has been made to raise a large quantity of water to a considerable height in a constant and uninterrupted stream. In the South of France, and near the coasts of the Mediterranean, there are many ponds which it would be of importance to drain, their vicinity being a scourge to a country in other respects so much favoured by nature. Some attempts have been made in the departments of the Aude and Gard, which give reason to presume that the soil is in general excellent.

No draining can be attended with more difficulties than that of the pond Citis; Mr. Jesse's method appears to be applicable to any pond that is to be drained, attention being paid to local circumstances; and it seems to be also equally applicable to draining great morasses, the whole produce of which it would be so advantageous to obtain, at a time when the scarcity of fire-wood causes anxiety for the means of supplying the want of fuel.

Though steam engines have been made to produce a much greater effect in raising water in this country from mines, than in the instance which excites the admiration of the French writer of the paper, from which the foregoing account is translated; yet the application of them in draining great ponds of water, or lakes, is equally a novelty here as in France. In Holland, this work has been generally performed by windmills, but we have heard, from good authority, that the States were so sensible of what might be done by the steam engine in this respect, that overtures were made many years ago to Mr. Bolton, of Soho, on the subject of supplying steam engines for draining the Zuider Zee, after its communication with the ocean should be embanked, and perhaps this great work might have been performed before this, if it had not been for the desolating effects of French rapacity. Much might be done by draining in our own islands, particularly in Scotland and Ireland, where myriads of acres of

of excellent land lie buried beneath waters, in many cases too shallow for navigation, and unproductive of any other benefit. The lake of Erne, in Ireland, alone contains more than one hundred square miles in this state; in most parts it is so shallow that boats drawing two feet water cannot come within several hundred feet of the shore; and the little navigation it affords for barges would be infinitely better supplied by a canal of six feet depth; this lake might be entirely drained by a proper disposition of canals, at an expense, that would be a mere trifle in comparison of the value of the many thousand acres of excellent land, which would be gained by the work. Many other lakes are in a state nearly as favourable for draining, and almost all might be made dry, to great profit, if not by canals, at least by the same means as the pond Citis. Several thousand acres of unproductive morass might also be turned to meadow and pasture, in the same way. And not a few square miles might be gained from the sea by similar management; in situations, some of which could be named, where embankments of no great extent, in one case less than one hundred fathoms in length, would effectually secure vast tracts of land, which easily might be made fit for every purpose of agriculture.

On making Wine from Garden Fruits, by Mr. Matthews.—Trans. Bath. Soc. V. 21.

Mr. W. Matthews has made wine by the following receipt, of a rich and valuable quality, which did not cost more than from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per gallon, and which he thought would attain the highest excellence after being kept three or four years longer.

Take of black currants, white currants, red currants, ripe cherries (black hearts are the best) and raspberries, an equal quantity of each, or nearly so; if the black currants are the most abundant the better.

To four pounds of the mixed fruit, well bruised, put one gallon of clear soft water; steep three days and nights in open vessels, frequently stirring up the mass; then strain it through an hair sieve; press the remaining pulp to dryness; put both liquids together, and to every gallon of the whole put three pound of good rich moist sugar, of a bright yellow appearance. Let the whole stand three days and three nights, frequently stirring up as before, after skimming off the top. Then tun it into casks, and let them remain full, and purging at the bung-hole, about two weeks. Lastly, to every nine gallons put one quart of good brandy, and bung it down. If it does not drop fine, a steeping of isinglass may be introduced, and stirred into the liquor, in the proportion of half an ounce to nine gallons.

Note. Gooseberries, especially the largest and most rich flavoured, may be used in the mixture to great advantage; but it has been found to be the best way to prepare them separately by more powerful bruising or pounding, so as to bring the pulp to a proper consistence, and by putting six quarts of fruit to one gallon of water, pouring on the water at two different times, the smaller quantity at night and the larger in the morning. Excellent gooseberry wine may be made from this liquor unmixed, and if it is added to the former mixture, the whole will be in general improved.

There is no reason given for the mixture of fruit here proposed, nor is any advantage obvious from it, except in cases where sufficient quantities of any one of the different fruits could not be procured. Red or white currants make exellent wine, but the acid quality of their juice prevents it from arriving at maturity, except after long keeping. The black currants are free from this objection, and from the blossom bud being enveloped in the leaf bud, the crop is more certain in unfavourable seasons. It appears, therefore, that black currants, by themselves, are the best for making wine.

Gooseberry juice may be of use to add if an acceleration of the fermentation is desired, as from accurate experiments, it is found to be one of the most fermentable juices known, and in its effects in composition to much resemble yeast.

An

An excellent paper, signed Domesticus, on the uses of black currants, may be seen in the Farmer's Magazine, No. 28; and another, on the same subject, in the the tenth volume of the Bath Society's Papers.

The receipt for black currant wine by Domesticus is as follows:—to every Scotch pint of juice, put two Scotch pints of water, and to every Scotch pint of this liquor add a pound and half of moist sugar. Put it into a cask in a dry warm room, where it will ferment of itself, scum off the refuse, and fill up the cask with some of the liquor reserved for this purpose. When done working, add a pint of spirits to every twenty pints of the wine; bung it close down till the February or March following; when it is to be drawn off, letting the dregs run through a jelly bag to clear the liquor.

In Dr. Anderson's *Recreations* is inserted an excellent paper on making wine from unripe grapes, which is well worth the attention of the many who have vines in this county, it is copied in Nicholson's Philosophical Journal, No. 85, and a very useful collection of observations on making red wine, particularly from grapes not quite ripe, may be found in the Retrospect of Discoveries in Arts, &c., V. III. p. 461, translated from the Journal de Physique, for May 1807.

Bad effects of Iron Nails on Fruit Trees when in contact with the Bark.—Month. Mag. No. 174.

An anonymous writer observes, in the Monthly Magazine, that fruit trees are often seen to have some of their branches, trained against walls, blighted and destroyed. This is in general supposed to be caused by the effects of lightning, but the author thinks this would occasion some laceration of the branch, of which he could never find an instance, and is inclined to attribute it to a galvanic action of the iron nails, by which the branches are fastened. As soon as the idea occurred to him, he recollected a cherry tree, of which a branch had been fastened to a wall by an iron cramp, and on examining it, found the branch dead. He afterwards examined several peach and nectarine trees, and wherever he saw a dead branch, invariably found that one or more of the nails, which fastened it, were *in contact with the bark.* A limb of a peach-tree was found dead, without any iron to be seen in contact with it, but on examining the wall, part of a large spike nail was found buried a little way in it, close to the branch.

A friend of the author's, about a year before, had fastened some currant-trees to a wall with iron hooks; those, on examination, were found to be almost all dead.

Whether the injury was caused by a galvanic effect of the nails, or by their attracting lightning, or by their acting as conductors to carry off the heat from the branches, cannot be determined, but the ill effect of fixing nails in contact with the bark seems very certain from the above account, and to do so ought therefore to be carefully avoided.

Great effect of Soap Suds as a Manure, discovered by Mr. G. Irwin, of Taunton.—Trans. Bath Soc. v. 11.

A few years ago Mr. Irwin's attention was attracted by the soil of a garden reduced to a state very unfriendly to vegetation. An invigorating manure was necessary, but this could not be easily procured. In considering the subject it occurred to Mr. Irwin, that the oil and alkali suspended in the water in which cloaths had been washed would probably have some good effect on the soil. Pits were immediately made in the garden, and the contents of the tubs were carefully thrown into them, that were usually committed to the common sewer; as successive washings occurred, other pits were dug and filled; and the whole garden, except a small portion, was in this manner watered and enriched. In the untouched part alone the vegetation is still languid, but the rest of the garden invigorated solely by the suds, annually exhibits a luxuriance almost equal to any thing which the fertile neighbourhood of Taunton can produce.

DOMESTIC

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX.

On Thursday, the 28th July, a large number of the wool-buyers of London and its environs assembled at Mr. Sadler's Repository-yard, in Goswell-street, to attend a sale of English-grown Merino wool, announced by Lord Somerville and other owners of Spanish flocks in this country, to be annually held at this place, for disposing of their wool by public auction. Twenty-seven lots of wool, principally of crops between Merino and Ryland sheep, were put up and quickly disposed of, at from 2s. to 4s. 1d. per pound, exclusive of a lot of scowered wool, which fetched 5s. 1d. per pound. Lord Somerville, in a neat speech, adverted to the danger of diminution, if not of annihilation, to which the Merino flocks are at this time exposed, while depasturing in the northern provinces of Spain, by the ravages of contending armies; and argued, that this circumstance ought to redouble the zeal of Agriculturists in the growth of Anglo-Merino wool, that had been proved so capable of supplying its place in the staple manufactures of the country. His Lordship, to shew the great degree of fineness which may in three years be produced by crossing proper breeds of English sheep with proper rams, produced a scowered fleece of Hereford and Merino wool, three times crossed, which was pronounced to be of very superior quality. The buyers very generally expressed their approbation of the establishment of this annual sale, and promised a very full attendance next year. At the conclusion of the sale, Lord Somerville gave an invitation to the company present, to return to the Three Cups, and partake of a chop of mutton from a fat wether of his true Merino breed, which was accepted.

At Hounslow wool fair, on Monday, the 1st of August, a large concourse of farmers and wool-buyers assembled in the ancient Market-house in Hounslow, and began the opening and inspecting of about 700 tods of wools (28lb.) of the Southdown, Wiltshire, and Dorset breeds of sheep, which had been brought in and pitched for sale by the farmers residing within a circuit of six or seven miles round the town. Sir Joseph Banks, who is the patron of this useful institution, and has usually taken the trouble of corresponding with gentlemen resident in different parts of England, in order to obtain information of the sales and prices at the several wool-fairs lately held, being prevented attending by indisposition, communicated to the farmers present the result of his inquiries, through the medium of Mr. Jonathan Passingham, a neighbouring farmer, purporting, as we understand, that no wools had been sold, at two or three of the principal fairs, owing to the price previously fixed by the sellers being more than the buyers would give, and that from the few sales which had been made, some decline from the last year's prices must be expected. About half past one near forty sat down together to dinner. When the cloth was withdrawn, Mr. Passingham, the deputy chairman, begged, before the company returned again to the market-house, to express his decided disapprobation of the conduct of those individuals, whose mistaken policy, if longer persevered in, would defeat the objects of and destroy many similar and older institutions to the present, by the absurd practice of the sellers of wool, after dinner, retiring from the buyers into a private room, and concerting the exact price which every seller present should demand for his wool! For himself he would say, and he could answer for similar sentiments in many of his friends present, that if the price which their judgment (formed on the best information they could obtain of the supply and demand for the article) should lead them shortly to set on their wools, should prove such as the buyers could not come up to, they should endeavour to come down to their offers, which always had here been liberal, and, he trusted, always would be, to farmers who brought their wools to Hounslow fair with the determination to sell.—On returning to the place of sale, and after examining the quality of several loads of wool, which had come in since the morning, the selling began, and every pound of wool was sold. The Downs from 47s. to 51s.; the Wiltshire from 41s. to 44s.; and the Dorsets

36s. to 42s., according to their respective fineness, and the care and neatness of the sheep-owners in washing their flocks.

Married. By special licence, at Harrington-house, the Marquis of Tavistock, eldest son to the Duke of Bedford, to Lady Anna Maria Stanhope, daughter to the Earl of Harrington. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (who came to town for the express purpose) gave the fair bride away.—At *St. George's*, Hanover-square, Sir Charles Meyrick Burrell, Bart. to Miss Windham, eldest daughter of the Earl of Egremont.—At *St. George's*, Hanover-square, Sir John Gore, of the Royal Navy, to Miss Montague, eldest daughter of Admiral Montague, Commander in Chief at Portsmouth.—At *St. Mary-le-Bone* church, Henry Shank, Esq. of the East India Company's Civil Service, to Miss Anna Maria Carnac.—At *St. James's* church, Westminster, Lieut. Colonel John Bladon Taylor, to Mrs. Elliot, daughter of the late Sir William Dunken.—The Rev. Plakely Cooper, of Yestminster, Devon, to Miss Bacon, niece of Lady Staunton, of Devonshire-place.—At *St. Martin's-in-the-Fields*, Isaac Thuret Dansz, Esq. of Amsterdam, to Henrietta, daughter of Jordnan Van de Paadevnort, Esq. of Demerary.—At *St. James's*, John Foulston, Esq. of St. Alban's-street, to Miss Eliza Davies, only daughter of the late David Davies, Esq. of Windsor.—At *St. Andrew's*, Major Barclay, of the 50th regt. to Miss Lawton, of Woburn-place.—At St. *Botolph*, Aldgate, Thomas Wilson, Esq. of Foley-place, to Miss Mary Ann Ince, of America-square, youngest daughter of the late Wm. Ince, Esq. of Hornsey.—At *St. Olave's*, Hart-street, C. J. Gerss, Esq. of Ramsgate, to Sophia, only daughter of James Ainsley, Esq. of New London-street.—At *Allhallows*, Staining, D. C. Flowerdew, Esq. of Blackheath, to Miss Kent, of Mark-lane.—At *St. Pancras*, Warwick Calmady Richardson, Esq. youngest son of John Richardson, Esq. of Bridge-end, Glamorgan, to Marianne, only daughter of James Walker, Esq. of Conway-street.—William Piddock Francis, Esq. of Great Coram-street, to Miss Sarah Chawner, youngest daughter of the late William Chawner, Esq. of Welbeck-street.—At *St. John's*, Hackney, J. S. Bray, Esq. to Miss Eliz. Hensley, of Clapton.

Died. Lady Diana Beauclerk, sister to the Duke of Marlborough, and of the Countess Dowager of Pembroke. Her Ladyship was first cousin to Aubrey, 5th Duke of St. Alban's, father of the present Duke, and of Lord William, the present High Sheriff for Lincolnshire. She was first married in 1757, to Frederick St. John Lord Viscount Bolingbroke, from whom she was divorced in 1768, and married secondly, in 1768, the Hon. Topham Beauclerk (son of Lord Sydney B. and grandson of the 1st Duke of St. Alban's), well known by his intimacy with Dr. Johnson, Edmund Burke, and other men of learning and genius of his time. He died in March, 1780.—At his father's house, in *Lower Grosvenor-street*, Lieut. General Churchill, who signalized himself in so many engagements in Flanders, and in St. Domingo, where he had a chief command for many years.—In *Devonshire-place*, Lady Boughton, wife of Sir Charles Wm. Rouse Boughton, Bart.—In *Weymouth-street*, Portland-place, Thomas Place, Esq.—In *Charles-street*, St. James's, aged 65, Jacob Holme, Esq.—Mrs. Roche, milliner, *Bruton-street*, Bond-street. While crossing the coach-way in Swallow-street, near Warwick-street, she was run over by a coach, and killed on the spot. About a year and half ago her husband was killed near the same spot by a horse running over him.—In *Serjeant's-inn*, Fleet-street (of which she had been an inhabitant more than half a century) aged 90, Mrs. Sarah Pocklington, widow of Robert Pocklington, Esq. of Chelsworth, Suffolk.—In *Bedford-row*, aged 62, Thomas Astley Maberley, Esq.—In *New Broad-street*, aged 83, George Giberne, Esq.—In *Hatfield-street*, Mr. Barthlemon. He had been upwards of half a century in this country, was an excellent musician, and once considered as a first-rate performer on the violin; but the style has changed since he was in vogue, though to the last he was much admired for his taste and skill in playing the works of Corelli and some of the old masters. He was a very amiable man in private life. Soon after he came into this country he married a Miss Young, a singer of considerable reputation in her day, and whose sister was married to the Hon. Mr. Scott, a barrister, and a brother of the late Lord Deleraine. Mrs. Scott was well known for many years as a vocal performer at

Drury-lane theatre. Mr. Barthlemon formerly led the band at Vauxhall, but latterly very seldom came forward as a performer in public.—Mr. Awdus, oar-maker, at Bankside. He was in a small skiff under the arch of London-bridge at the time a coal-barge was passing: the barge overturned his boat, and he was lost.—Mr. Smith, shipwright, of Coleman-street, Shadwell. After dinner he left his watch with his daughter, telling her she would never see him more alive, and walked out of the room as if going to work, but was soon afterwards discovered hanging in his back premises, quite dead. It is remarkable his wife hung herself about a twelvemonth since.—At *Pentonville*, aged 58, Mr. Edw. Harris, an highly respectable member of the Stock Exchange, and one of the proprietors of the New River.—At *Islington*, aged 71, Mr. John Jones, formerly an eminent optician in Holborn.—At *Kentish Town*, Mrs. E. Elizabeth Downes, relict of the late John Downes, Esq. of Great Marlow, Bucks.—In *Cripplegate Workhouse*, aged 103, Mrs. Mary Carey.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

Married. At *Apsley Guise*, the Rev. William Dennison, rector of Cublington, to Miss C. M. T. Aveling, sister of the Rev. T. Aveling, rector of Apsley.

Died. At *Bedford*, aged 102, Mrs. Elizabeth Tingay, late of Northill. Her death was occasioned by falling out of her chair and breaking her leg, which brought on a mortification. She retained her faculties to the last moment of her existence, and her health and spirits were remarkably good.

BERKSHIRE.

At the annual meeting of the Berkshire Agricultural Society, holden at Usley, on Thursday the 28th of July last, the prizes were unanimously adjudged to Sir John Throckmorton, and Mr. Fowte, of Kintbury: To the former, as having produced the most complete and thorough-bred Southdown sheep; and to the latter, as having produced the most complete Leicester. The establishment of annual wool fairs, one at Newbury, on Midsummer fair-day, and another at Wantage, on the 18th of July, were unanimously agreed to; the members present promising individually to promote the same.—At *Reading*, Mrs. Sophia Mickelthwaite, wife of J. G. Mickelthwaite, Esq. of Warbrook-house, Eversley, Hants.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Married. At *Aylesbury*, the Rev. J. Bull, M. A. late of Oriel-college, Oxford, to Mrs. Kennedy, relict of P. Kennedy, Esq. M. D. and only daughter of Sir David Williams, B. D. of Goldington-house, Herts.—At *Chesham*, Mr. William Street, to Mary Ann, second daughter of the late Rev. Moses Porter, of Clapham.

Died. At *Pyle*, near Colnbrook, aged 79, Henry Bullock, Esq.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

Married. At *Toft*, T. Steel, Esq. of London, to Miss Haighton.—At *Whittlesea*, Mr. Walker Wright, jun. of Wisbech, to Miss Johnson, only daughter of John Johnson, Esq.

CHESHIRE.

Married. At *Chester*, the Rev. T. Winfield, M. A. to Miss Mary Jane Sparrow, daughter of J. B. Sparrow, Esq. of Redhill, in the island of Anglesea.—At *Sandbach*, George Ormerod, Esq. late of Brazenose-college, Oxford, to Sarah, eldest daughter of J. Latham, M. D. of Bradwell-hall.

Died. At *Chester*, Mr. John Tomlinson, surgeon.—At *Frodsham*, the Rev. Thomas Webster, vicar of Stoke, in this county.—At *Stockport*, aged 77, Mr. William Hardy. His old age was a happy illustration of the period which has been well described as the "interval of repose and enjoyment between the hurry and the end of life." In the full possession of his mental faculties, he reviewed the past scenes of existence without remorse, and anticipated the future without anxiety. His piety, which was ever rational and manly, illuminated his declining days with a mild but steady radiance. His social, friendly, and

and benevolent affections were not weakened by the pressure of age, but expanded even to his latest hour. His patriarchal simplicity, urbanity, and cheerfulness, endeared him to the young, while his fellow sojourners in life bore witness to his tried integrity and fortitude amidst its vicissitudes. The smiling serenity of his departing hour was an earnest of his entire resignation to the will of that benevolent Being, whose goodness had both led his way and followed his steps through the various periods of his mortal existence. To the family and social circles in which he lived beloved, and who now lament his loss, this notice of his character may prove consolatory; nor will the sympathy of kindred minds be withheld wherever simplicity of character is admired or benevolence respected.—Near *St. Asaph*, whither he had gone for the recovery of his health, aged 31, Robert Barker, M. D. one of the physicians of the Chester Infirmary. He possessed an excellent understanding, great urbanity of manners, and every qualification requisite for the arduous and important duties of his profession. His death will be sincerely lamented by those who had the happiness of knowing him, and deeply regretted by all his relations.

CORNWALL.

The meeting of the Cornwall Agricultural Society at Helston was very fully and respectably attended, and the stock produced much exceeded the general expectation both in number and breed;—15 bulls, 20 rams, and 6 boars were entered for the premiums, which were adjudged as follows: To Mr. A. Paul, of Camborne, for the best bull, 5l.; to Viel Vyvyan, Esq. for the second best bull, 2l.; to Thomas Grylls, Esq. for the best ram, 5l.; to Mr. Wm. Plomer, of St. Martin's, for the best ram yeaned in Cornwall, 2l.; to Mr. John Williams, of St. Hilary, for the best boar, 2l.—From the specimens exhibited, particularly of sheep, it appears that the neighbourhood of Helston has made very rapid advances in the improvement of live stock: and it is peculiarly gratifying to the lovers of agriculture to observe, that the farmers have adopted the improved breed with much spirit and effect.—After the business of the day was gone through, a large party of gentlemen and farmers dined together at the Angel inn. Among the company present, were the president, Mr. Vyvyan, of Trelowarren, Mr. Tremayne, Mr. P. Rodd, Mr. Gwatkin, Mr. Stackhouse, Capt. Penrose, Rev. Mr. Walker, &c. &c.

A very destructive fire happened lately at Bake, in St. Germain's (the seat of Sir Joseph Copley) which entirely destroyed that ancient mansion, with the farm-house adjoining, and part of the furniture, 200l. worth of wool, and 100l. worth of hams and bacon; an apprentice boy to Mr. Keast, the tenant, about nine years of age, fell a victim to the flames.

Married. At *Breage*, Captain Matthew Bennetts, of Godolphin Mine, to Miss Mary James, of Ruthdower-house.—At *St. Gluvias*, Mr. John Street, surgeon of the Walsingham packet, to Mrs. Nicholas, relict of Thomas Nicholas, Esq. of Penryn.—At *St. Feock*, Capt. W. Gosset, of the royal engineers, to Miss Gertrude Daniell, second daughter of Ralph Allen Daniell, Esq. of Trelissick, M. P. for West Looe.

Died. At *East Looe*, Mr. John Rice, surgeon, who had resided there upwards of thirty years, and during that time had been a most exemplary pattern of social affection and private charity.—At *Falmouth*, Mrs. Carne, wife of John Carne, Esq. merchant.

CUMBERLAND.

At the late anniversary meeting of the subscribers to the Whitehaven Dispensary it appeared, that the number of patients admitted to the benefits of the charity from June 8, 1807, to June 13, 1808, is as follows:—Recommended and registered, 1156; children vaccinated, 298; trivial incidents, 2719: total, 4173. Of these have been cured, 1292, relieved, 38; pronounced incurable, 9; dead, 46; remaining upon the books, 68: total, 1453. The total number of patients admitted since the opening of the institution in 1793, is 94,604. Inoculated for the cow-pock in the course of the last four years, 1103.

Died. At *Beaver-hall*, near Carlisle, —— Foster. While gathering rushes, he

he accidentally trod on an adder, which coiled round his leg and bit it. The limb immediately swelled to a great size, and the *virus* introducing itself into the body, caused his speedy death.—At *Keswick*, aged 66, Mr. Thomas Banks, many years an eminent and respectable tanner of that place. His friendly and hospitable disposition endeared him to an extensive circle of acquaintance, and his death will be much regretted by all, as well as the poor, the widow, and the orphan, who experienced his humane and charitable assistance.

On Sunday, the 14th instant, as two young girls (sisters) of the name of Brown, the one 13, the other 12 years of age, with a female companion, were crossing a temporary bridge leading over the river Caldew at Starr Mire, parish of Sebergham, the youngest fell into the water. Her sister, without hesitating, jumped into the pool, which was about eight feet in depth, saying to her companion, "Hold my hat, I will soon have her out;" but, instantly sunk. The body of the youngest was found next day; that of the oldest a day after.

DERBYSHIRE.

Died. At *Handley*, aged 92, Mr. John Hancock, sen.—At *Shuttlewood*, aged 86, Mrs. Elizabeth Allwood.—At *Darley*, aged 87, the Rev. Sir William Ulithorn Wray. He had been rector of that parish forty-four years.

DEVONSHIRE.

Married. At *Exeter*, Capt. Jeffery, of the royal navy, to Miss Louisa Dacie, eldest daughter of Mr. John Dacie.—William Page Kingdon, Esq. to Miss Mary Wreaks Eyre, eldest daughter of John Eyre, Esq. of Sheffield.—At *Powderham*, —— Luton, Esq. of Alpington, to Miss Babbage, of Powderham castle.

Died. At *Exeter*, Mrs. Arthur, wife of Nicholas Arthur, Esq. of Southernhay-place.—At *Exmouth*, aged 24, Mrs. Miller, wife of T. E. Miller, Esq. of Bockleton, Worcestershire.—At *Plymouth*, Mrs. Mudge, relict of the late Dr. Mudge, and mother of Capt. Mudge, of his Majesty's ship Phœnix.—At *Tiverton*, aged 57, John Wrench, Esq.—At *Modbury*, aged 97, and in full possession of his faculties, Mr. William Rosdew, who for the last fifty years had lived a total recluse, denying himself not only the comforts but almost the necessaries of life: by this extreme penury he had amassed a considerable property, a great part of which he most liberally distributed among his relations before his death. He was a man of strict integrity, and, notwithstanding his love of money, scrupulously just in all his dealings. This extraordinary turn of a naturally strong mind is supposed to have arisen from a disappointment in his affections at an early period of life.—At *Ridgeway*, aged 70, Mrs. Eales, relict of the late T. Hales, Esq. Plymouth.

DORSETSHIRE.

Died. At *Henbury*, suddenly, William Churchill, Esq. He was of the same family as John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, and the lineal representative, by his mother's side, of the original stock from which the Lowndes's of Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire are sprung; his mother being Sarah Lowndes, the daughter and sole heiress of John Lowndes, Esq. of Overton and Lea-hall, in Cheshire, and of Shepherd's Well, in Kent. He married to his first wife Lady Louisa Greville, sister to the Earl of Warwick, by whom he has left a son and heir; his second wife, now a widow, was a relict of the Earl of Stafford.—Mr. Churchill was great nephew and one of the heirs of Thomas Lowndes, Esq. a Clerk in the Treasury, who founded an Astronomical Professorship at Cambridge, and who at great expense and trouble invented the bay salt that goes by his name, but for which invention 25,000l. is still claimed from Government by the representatives of the above Thomas Lowndes, who died in 1748.—At *Lyme Regis*, Mrs. Tuckett, relict of the late Wm. Tuckett, Esq. of Bridgewater.

DURHAM.

At the first meeting of the Tees Navigation Company, held at the Town-hall, Stockton,

Stockton, to put in execution the act of parliament for making a navigable cut through the neck of land near Portrach, a committee was chosen for carrying the measure into effect. This, when executed, will be of the greatest advantage to the port and neighbourhood of Stockton, as a circuitous and dangerous navigation will be entirely avoided, and a facility given to vessels navigating the river which must be felt by all concerned in the trade of that port.

Died. At *Gateshead*, aged 61, the Rev. John Falcon, who had for many years held the perpetual clerkship of that parish.

ESSEX.

Died. At *Colchester*, David Dixon Lloyd, Esq. second son of the late Rev. Dr. Lloyd, of Lynn.—At *Birchanger*, Mrs. Hippuff, wife of Charles Hippuff, Esq. of New Ormond-street, London.—At *Chelmsford*, aged 92, Mrs. Carter, relict of Mr. John Carter, late of Bumpsted Helen.—At *Walthamstow*, aged 80, Solomon Barint Gompertz, Esq.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Married. At *Bristol*, the Rev. Frederick Barnes, rector of Colyton, Devon, to Miss Coulson, of Berkeley Crescent.—John Freeman, Esq. lieutenant in the 35th regt. to Miss Bunce, eldest daughter of the late Capt. Bunce, of the royal navy.—At *Cheltenham*, Capt. Blake, of Belmont, in the county of Galway, to Mrs. Erskine, widow of Major General Erskine, of Cardross, only daughter of the late Lieut. General Sir William Myers.—At *Rodmarton*, H. J. Biedermann, Esq. of Malmesbury Charlton, Wilts, to Miss R. Kilmister, daughter of Mr. R. Kilmister, of Culkerton, in this county.—At *Stapleton*, the Rev. Godfrey Faussett, Fellow of Magdalen college, Oxford, to Miss Marianne Bridges, eldest daughter of Thomas Bridges, Esq. of Kimmin Cottage, Glamorganshire.—At *Tetbury*, T. F. Byans, Esq. to Miss Wight, daughter of the late R. Wight, Esq.

Died. At *Bristol*, Thomas Holmes, Esq. of Old Park.—Aged 90, Mrs. Mary Lewes, of Stokes Croft. After a very handsome remembrance to a servant who had lived with her fifty years, and some legacies to a few particular friends, she has bequeathed her property in the following manner: To the Bristol Infirmary (independent of 200l. left by her husband, to become payable at her decease) 1000l. 3-per cent. consols annuities; 1500l. ditto to the Bristol Dispensary; 400l. ditto to the minister and churchwardens of St. James's parish, the interest to be annually applied in the distribution of shoes to the poor of that parish; 200l. ditto to the asylum for poor orphan girls; 200l. ditto to the blind asylum; 200l. ditto to the sunday-school of St. James's; and the residue of her effects, which is supposed to be very considerable, to the minister and churchwardens of St. James's, the interest to be applied to the relief of twelve poor widows of that parish not receiving alms.—At *Clifton*, Lady Dunbar, widow of the late Sir George Dunbar, of Mochrum.—At *Sodbury*, Mrs. Elizabeth Brooke, relict of Henry Brooke, Esq. formerly of Bristol.—At *Tewkesbury*, aged 107, Alice Liech.—At *Tocklington*, aged 84, Mr. John Player, an active and honourable member of the society of Friends.

HAMPSHIRE.

Died. At *Christchurch*, Mrs. Jackson, widow of the late Rev. William Jackson, vicar of that parish.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

At the late meeting of the Herefordshire Agricultural Society at Leominster, the premiums were adjudged as follows; For the best yearling bull, to Mr. French, of Bromfield; best three-year-old ditto, to Mr. Jeffries, of the Sheriffs; best yearling, to Mr. Gallier, of King's Pyon; for the best three-year-old ditto, lots were drawn by Mr. Jeffries and Mr. Gallier, and was won by the latter; the competition ran so close between the two animals, that the judges were unable to decide which was best. For the best milch cow, to Hugh Price, Esq. of Foxley; best fine-wooled ram, Mr. Kedward, of West Hide; best boar, Mr. Walker, of Burton Court. The animals shewn were not numerous, but far superior to any exhibited at Leominster on a like occasion.

Married.

Married. At *Weobly*, Henry Moore, Esq. formerly of the Homme, to Miss Phillips, niece of the late Thomas Phillips, Esq. of Newton.—At *Gretna Green*, Lewis Frazer, Esq. of the 15th infantry, to Miss Catherine Williams, daughter of J. Williams, Esq. of Wellcroft, near Hereford.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

Married. At *Woodstone*, C. Sherard, Esq. of Thrapstone, Northamptonshire, to Miss Mary Bringhurst, second daughter of the Rev. John Bringhurst, rector of Bringhurst.

KENT.

Married. At *Maidstone*, Joshua Russell, youngest son of the late John Russell, Esq. to Miss Wildes, daughter of Thomas Wildes, Esq.—Horatio Pope, Esq. of Fant-house, to Miss Lee, only daughter of William Lee, Esq. of the Bower.

Died. The Rev. Robert Breton, vicar of Boughton Aluphe. He was formerly of St. John's-college, Cambridge, LL. B. 1751.—At *Eltham-lodge*, Oliver Farrar, Esq. of Bedford-square.—At *Crayford-house*, Mrs. Ann Nixon, wife of the Rev. Robert Nixon, B. D.—At *Welmington*, near Dartford, aged 70, James Cumming, Esq. Admiral of the White.—At *Lewisham*, aged 38, Eliza Castell, eldest daughter of the late Samuel Castell, Esq. Lombard-street.

LANCASHIRE.

The new Corn Exchange, in Brunswick-street, Liverpool, was opened for the first time on Tuesday, August 2d, and bids fair to render the most important advantage to the trade of that place. At half past ten the stands were all occupied, and the market being well attended by country buyers, business was carried on till one with a degree of spirit and liberality which gives the most certain pledge of the utility of the undertaking. At three o'clock the proprietors and many of their friends dined together at the Royal Hotel, in Lord-street, and the day was concluded with the utmost harmony. Among the numerous improvements which have of late years been effected in this town, there is none which promises to be of more beneficial tendency. The corn trade forms a most essential and important branch of our commerce, which had been carried on hitherto on a confined and imperfect scale. For the future, it is to be hoped, that no encouragement will be given to any of those who would wish to violate its rules, and, contrary to the spirit of the undertaking, divert the country dealers from that market where both buyers and sellers are placed on a fair and equitable footing.

Married. At *Bury*, the Rev. F. Casson, of Chester, to Miss Ortt, daughter of the Rev. R. Ortt, of Bury.—At *Liverpool*, Mr. Henry Hunt, to Miss Thompson, only daughter of the late Nicholas Thompson, Esq. merchant, of Whitehaven.—Mr. Wm. M'Call, merchant, to Miss Agnes Liston, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Robert Liston, of Aberdour.—At *Manchester*, Robert Humphries, Esq. to Miss Overall.—At *Douglas*, in the Isle of Man, William Scott, Esq. Receiver General of the island, to the Hon. Miss Murray, eldest daughter of the late Lord Henry Murray.—At *Preston*, Edward Birley, Esq. of Kirkham, to Miss Eliz. Swainson.

Died. At *Lancaster*, aged 62, Mrs. Mary Rawlinson, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Hutton Rawlinson, Esq.—At *Liverpool*, aged 77, Mrs. Goodwin, relict of the late W. Goodwin, Esq. of Norris Green.—At *Euxton Parsh*, near Chorley, aged 88, Mr. Richard Latham. He had been upwards of forty years a trustee of Dr. Bushell's charity, the Goosnargh hospital.—At *Warrington*, Mrs. Kerfoot, widow of the late Walter Kerfoot, Esq.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Married. At *Barwell*, Thomas Pemberton, Esq. of Birmingham, to Miss Maria Frances Hook, youngest daughter of the late Lieut. Colonel Hook.

Died. At *Lutterworth*, aged 86, Mrs. Mary King.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

At Lincoln assizes, Richard Long, aged 19, lately of Silk Willoughby, labourer, charged with maliciously maiming and killing a mare, and maiming two

two other mares, the property of his master, E. Robinson, of that parish, farmer, was *acquitted* of killing the mare (on account of some informality), but found guilty of maiming the others, and sentenced to *death*. It seemed that the prisoner had no other inducement to commit the barbarous offence than revenge for the discharge of his sister and mother from the service of the prosecutor. He inflicted the wounds with a sheep-hook, which he stabbed 21 inches into the bodies of the poor animals.

Died. At *Partney*, the Rev. William Taylor, rector of Bratoft and Ashby. He was formerly of Magdalen-college, Cambridge, B. A. 1782.—At *Gainsbro'*, aged 103, Mrs Grace Revil.—At *Crowland Abbey*, aged 85, the Rev. Moor Scribo, rector of that parish.—At *Upton*, near Gainsbro', aged 75, Mr. Samuel Leonard, many years chief constable of that district.—At *Northolme*, Mr. Stephen Kershaw. On his return from church in the afternoon he complained of fatigue, and said he would try to get a little sleep; but, in less than half an hour afterwards, a servant, on going into the room, found him dead.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

Died. At *Hendre*, near Usk, aged 86, Mrs. Jones.

NORFOLK.

The annual report of the Norwich Dispensary states the receipts (including the balance in hand) from 1st July, 1807, to 30th June, 1808, at 238l. 7s. 9½d., and the disbursements at 212l. 17s. 5d.; leaving a balance of 25l. 10s. 4½d. During that period 305 patients have been cured, 54 relieved, 23 sent to the hospital, or into the country, 21 discharged for non-attendance, 10 not likely to receive benefit, 133 remain on the books, and 32 have died—making a total of 575; of whom 141 were visited at their own habitations. The number of patients admitted since the first establishment of the institution in March, 1804, amounts to 1946.

The debts already proved in the commission of bankruptcy against the firm of the late Sir Roger Kerrison and his Son, Thomas Allday Kerrison, amount to the sum of 502,000l.

Married. At *Norwich*, the Rev. Thomas Browne, D. D. Master of Christ-college, Cambridge, to Miss Lucy Astley, youngest daughter of the late Rev. John Astley, of Thornage, and youngest niece of our late popular representative Sir Edward Astley.—Richard Veale Minty, Esq. storekeeper of his Majesty's ordnance at Yarmouth, to Miss Hibgame, only daughter of the late Rev. Richard Edward Hibgame, rector of Stratton St. Michael.—At *Stratfield-lodge*, G. E. Beauchamp Proctor, Esq. second son of Sir T. B. Proctor, Bart. of Langley-park, to Ellen, only daughter of Robert W. Halhed, Esq. of the Priory, Berks.—At Swaffham, Lieut. Vernon Abbott, of the Royal Marines, to Miss Ann Crisp, youngest daughter of John Crisp, Esq. of East Dereham.

Died. At *Norwich*, Mrs. Jane Archbold, widow of Thomas Archbold, Esq. formerly in the Portuguese service.—At *Hoveton*, Mrs. Hester Negus, relict of Henry Negus, Esq.—At *Yarmouth*, the Rev. Wm. Leigh, Dean of Hereford.—At *Sedgeford*, the Rev. Thomas Wetherhead, vicar of that parish.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Died. At *Thorpe Malsor*, aged 25, Miss Maunsel, daughter of Thomas Cecil Maunsell, Esq.—At *Rockingham*, aged 80, Mrs. Day, relict of Mr. John Day.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Died. At *Alnwick*, Mrs. Ogle, relict of Ralph Ogle, Esq. of Eglingham.—At *Newcastle*, aged 106, Mrs. Dorothy Turnbull, of the Wall Knoll. She was born on the 4th of July, 1702, in the reign of Queen Anne, and until within three days of her death possessed her faculties in an astonishing degree. Her memory being little impaired, she could relate with astonishing exactness a variety of events which happened during the rebellion in 1715, and almost every subsequent occurrence of any importance. About a month ago she made herself a petticoat, without the aid of spectacles, when she was heard to observe, that "she had lived to such an age, that Newcastle could not furnish her with a pair

a pair to assist her sight." On the Friday preceding her death she walked to Low Friar-street, where she drank tea with an acquaintance, but before returning home she grew very low spirited, and seemed conscious of her approaching dissolution. The next day she was confined to her bed, and on Monday her existence was terminated.—Aged 52, Frederick Horne, Esq. surgeon in the royal navy, for many years one of the surgeons to the Newcastle Infirmary, and senior Captain of the corps of Newcastle volunteers—whose acknowledged eminence in his profession was the least among his many estimable qualities. A generous warmth of feeling on every subject connected with apprehended duty, distinguished his whole conduct, and rendered him an excellent husband and father, an affectionate and firm friend, an ardent lover of his country, and an active and zealous promoter of every scheme of public utility. His death will be remembered with deep and lasting regret.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Married. At *Holme Pierrepont*, Robert Burgess, Esq. to Miss Elizabeth Donnithorne, daughter of the Rev. Thomas Donnithorne, rector of that parish.

OXFORDSHIRE.

Married. At *Cookham*, John Russell, Esq. B. A. Student of Christ-church, to Miss Mary Augusta Lloyd, eldest daughter of the Rev. Eusebius Lloyd.

RUTLANDSHIRE.

Died. At *Uppingham*, aged 70, Mrs. Saunders, relict of the late Edward Saunders, Esq.

SHROPSHIRE.

Married. At *Welch Hampton*, Mr. J. Lewis, of Breeden Hearth, aged 17, to Miss Glover, of Ellesmere, aged 83.

Died. At her house, near *Ellesmere*, the Right Hon. Dowager Lady Kenyon, relict of Lord Kenyon, late Chief Justice.—At *Dinthill*, Joseph Cooper, Esq. late Captain in the second regt. of Shropshire militia.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

The anniversary of the Wool Mart, established by the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society, was holden at their exhibition-yard, in the city of Bath, on Wednesday, August 3. The quantity of Anglo-Merino wool deposited for sale proved a more abundant supply than last year. A quantity exceeding the expectations of the Society and of the growers, was disposed of, and at prices, for the most part, adequate to the demands of the owners. The extreme fineness of some lots was a great temptation to manufacturers, who were the chief purchasers; and the mode recommended and put in practice by Mr. Joyce, of sorting and scowering the improved wool of the Spanish crosses (with the process of which many wool-staplers are not yet well acquainted) greatly tended to increase the business of the day. This institution, as yet in its infancy, bids fair to justify the patriotic intention of the Society in its establishment, by promoting the growth of, and giving publicity to, the Anglo-Merino wool, the excellence of which they have been the first to appreciate, by the frequent premiums they have given to the manufacturers, as well as the growers of improved British wool. Much praise is due to those public spirited men, who, contrary to the prejudices which generally prevail, have made these experiments, the successful result of which, in all situations of public affairs, must be considered of national importance, inasmuch as it proves, in one instance at least, how independent we can be of foreign nations. We hear that, further to promote an object which they have been the first to cherish, the Bath Society intend to appear at their public meetings in cloth made only of improved British wool. B. Hobhouse, Esq. M.P. F.R.S. president of the Society, was present during all the mart, and was accompanied to a dinner, at the White Hart, by a number of respectable gentlemen, growers of wool, and manufacturers; when the conversation turned on that staple article of our country, wool, and particularly

particularly on that eminent improvement of it by the Spanish cross, which had been made apparent in so many distinguished by that day's exhibition. Several appropriate toasts were given, and the company retired at an early hour, expressing great satisfaction at the pleasing presage afforded by the business of the day, that this mart will, in a few years, prove equally advantageous to the growers and manufacturers of fine British wool, in the vicinity of Bath and the adjacent counties.

An unfortunate circumstance took place on Sunday evening, the 7th of Aug. at Lansdown, near Bath. It has been long a custom on the Sunday preceding Lansdown fair, for the young people to assemble on the Down, and amuse themselves with the usual sports and pastimes of what they term Lansdown revels; but the present high constable for the hundred of Bath Forum, Mr. Duncan Campbell, was fully determined to suppress all tumultuous and pugilistic proceedings. Unhappily something occurred that occasioned his interference, and meeting with resistance, he at last had recourse to a pistol, and shot a man of the name of Strong in the abdomen. The poor fellow is since dead. Mr. Campbell with difficulty escaped the vengeance of the mob, and surrendered himself up to Mr. Justice White, who committed him to prison. Mr. Campbell is a man of family and fortune, and has been particularly active in his office. A coroner's inquest has since been held; the jury returned a verdict of *Justifiable homicide*.

Married. At *Bath*, Vice Admiral Sir Thomas Graves, K. B. to Miss Blacknall, of Parham, Suffolk.—Charles Temple, Esq. of Pulteney-street, to Miss Reynolds, daughter of Edmund Reynolds, Esq. of the Crescent.

Died. At *Bath*, aged 85, Mrs. Blenerhasset, widow of Arthur Blenerhasset, Esq. of Rennell-street.—William Bonnell, Esq. of Colchester.—At *St. George's*, aged 79, Thomas Wilkins, Morgan, Esq. He had been upwards of fifty years in the commission of the peace for this county.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

The meeting of the Staffordshire Agricultural Society, at Litchfield, on Tuesday, the 26th of July, was the fullest ever known. The match between Lord Talbot's Herefordshire, and Mr. Dyott's long-horned ox, was decided in favour of the latter gentleman. The match between Mr. Meek and Mr. Moore, of a shear-hog ram, was decided in favour of Mr. Meek. The premium for rams was adjudged to Mr. Meek, and that for the two best theaves to Mr. Dyott.—The judges were, Mr. Astley and Mr. Thomas Stone.—The weight of Mr. Dyott's ox alive was 1 ton 6 cwt. 1 qr—six score to the hundred.—The Rev. George Talbot is appointed president, and Lord Bradford vice-president for next year.

Married. At *Clifton*, Thomas Byng, Esq. of Tamworth, to Miss Maria Wyllym.

SUFFOLK.

The anniversary of the Suffolk Humane Society was held at the Crown inn, Lowestoft, on Wednesday, Aug. 3. Robert Sparrow, Esq. in the chair. The company was highly gratified by the very appropriate addresses of the chairman to each of the persons to whom medals and rewards were given. The very valuable invention of Capt. Manby, of Yarmouth, for securing a communication between the shore and a stranded vessel, was the cause of his receiving a medal with a suitable motto. To Mr. W. H. Crowfoot another was presented, from whose exertions in restoring the life of Serjeant Bubb the Suffolk Humane Society commenced. Mr. Garrard, of Walberswick; Mr. James Stebbens, and Mr. James Buxton, pilots of Lowestoft, received medals for having at great hazard to themselves saved the lives of others. Pecuniary rewards were given to Wm. Allerton, Henry Catchpole, and James Stebbens, jun. of Lowestoft, and to John Crisp, John Galer, James Curdy, and Robert Sterry, of Southwold. Many interesting discussions on the best mode of preserving lives in cases of shipwreck were during the day introduced, and the company have the pleasure of finding that the Society was rising in estimation by the addition of many new subscribers.

Great part of the materials for building the martello towers on the coast of this county are now landed, and the soldiers have begun digging for the foundations. There are to be two on the right bank of the Debin, on the Bentbills in Felixstow, and five in the parish of Bawdsey. Each tower is to be fifty feet high, and to contain accommodations for fifty men, with one gun to move in every direction, and a battery in front of four guns and five mortars.

Married. At *Little Thurlow*, Sir John G. Honeywood, Bart. of Evington, Kent. to Miss Mary Ann Cooper, eldest daughter of Sir William H. Cooper, Bart.

Died. The Rev. William Waddington, rector of Cavendish. He was formerly of Jesus-college, Cambridge, B.A. 1761, M.A. 1764.—At *Barrow*, aged 84, the Rev. George Ashby, F.S.A. rector of that parish, where he had constantly resided since his induction in 1774. He was admitted of St. John's-college, Cambridge, Oct. 30, 1740, B.A. 1744, M.A. 1748, B.D. 1756, and was many years president of that society to which he has bequeathed his valuable library and museum. Having been for some years deprived of sight, he was under the necessity of retaining an amanuensis, and has left the greater part of his property to a gentleman who lived with him in that capacity.—At *Lavenham*, aged 72, Thomas Low, butcher. While bringing home a calf, he was pushed down by the animal, and fell upon a hog-knife which he had in his pocket, which penetrated his body so as to occasion his death in less than an hour afterwards.

SURREY.

On Wednesday, the 17th of August, a great number of gentlemen, purchasers, and amateurs, assembled at the Paddock, near the Pagoda, at Kew, at the sale of 42 lots of pure Merino sheep, drawn from the flock of his Majesty, for the highly-beneficial purpose of dispersing them through his dominions, as a means of improving the present quality of our fine wools. No sheep ever came to the hammer under more advantageous circumstances for the purchaser; as, independent of the serious loss Spain is likely at the present moment to receive from the desolating transactions in that kingdom, the sheep themselves were exposed to view almost in a starved state, from the pasture, in which they had latterly run, having been completely burnt up by the late hot weather; consequently, thus weak and poor, whatever blemishes they had could be easily detected. It was stated by those who have had the management of his Majesty's flock these fourteen years, or from the time Sir Joseph Banks first formed his arrangements respecting it, when the sheep were originally presented by the King of Spain, that so far from any *diminution* in the *quality* of the wool having taken place, it was, if any thing, rather improved. This was corroborated by Mr. Laycock, the wool-stapler, who has had the wool from the first clip. The clip from his Majesty's ewes is usually from 4lbs. to 5lbs. and from the rams 7lbs. annually. Seventeen of the sheep sold were rams, and the rest ewes. The prices were on an average between 20 and 30 guineas. A six-toothed ram used in his Majesty's flock, was sold to Mr. Allen at 37 guineas, and another four-toothed ram was sold to Mr. Summer at 60 guineas. The amateurs were much pleased on examining a twin ewe and wether, two years old, out of a Somerset ewe by a Merino ram, which were very straight, and in most points complete, and which appeared very much inclined to fatten. A one-year-old ewe, out of the above half bred Somerset by a Merino ram, attracted much notice, as the shape was very much improved, and the quality of the wool but little inferior to the true Merino.

Married. At *Battersea*, William Saunders, Esq. of Battersea-rise, to Miss Maria Rolleston, eldest daughter of Stephen Rolleston, Esq. of Arlington-street.—At *Camberwell*, Thomas Addison, Esq. of Ludgate-street, to Mrs. Coombs, of Addington-place.—At *Lambeth*, Renock Browne, Esq. of Bushey Heath, to Miss Jane Brown, of Vauxhall-place.

Died. At *Camberwell*, aged 70, Jacob Wrench, Esq. of Thames-street, second senior common-councilman of the city of London.—At *Stoke Newington*, aged 69, T. Compton, Esq.

SUSSEX.

The Lewes cattle shew took place on Thursday, August 9th. By eleven o'clock Lord Sheffield, Sir John Sebright, and near 500 gentlemen, assembled at the place where the cattle were exhibited. Their attention was occupied by a new thrashing machine, which will thrash five bushels of wheat in one hour, with the assistance of four men, without damaging the straw. After they had inspected the cattle, sheep, &c. the company repaired to the White Hart Inn, at Lewes, and partook of an elegant dinner. Upwards of 300 sat down. Lord Sheffield in the chair.—After the cloth was removed the prizes were delivered as follows:

To Mr. Edward Auger, of Eastbourn, for the best bull, two years old,—To Mr. William Harrison, of Folkington, for the best bull, four years old.—To Mr. John Chatfield, of Horton, for the best heifer, two years old.—To Mr. William Harrison, of Folkington, for the best heifer, three years old.—To Mr. William Harrison, of Folkington, for the best cow, four years old.—To Mr. Obadiah Elliot, of Ringmer, for the best yoke of working oxen from four to six years old.—To Mr. William Harrison, of Folkington, for the best South-down ram, one year old.—To Sir J. Sebright, for the best two year old ram.—To Mr. Thomas Saxby, of Northcase, for his three year old ram.—To Viscount Gage, for the best Southdown flock ram, two years old.—To Mr. John Hamsbar, for the best Southdown flock ram, three years old.—To Sir John Sebright, as the owner of the best Southdown ram fleece.—To Mr. William Harrison, for the best pen of Southdown Ewes.—To Messrs T. and C. Hooper, of Ringmer, for the second best ditto.—To Mr. John Farncombs, of Stoneham, for the third best ditto.—To Mr. William Harrison, for the best boar, and to Mr. John Ellman, for the best sow.

Died. At *Hastings*, Mrs. Higginson, of Hans Place, Sloane Street, relict of the late Rev. W. M. Higginson, of Alvescot, Oxon.—At *Bognor*, aged 27, Matthew Richard Onslow, Esq. eldest son of Admiral Sir Richard Onslow, Bt.—At *Petworth*, Thomas Johnson, Esq. who had filled the office of Coroner for the western division of the county many years.—At *The Grange*, near East Grinstead, aged 46, the Rev. Johnston Towers, A. B.—At *Arundel*, Mrs. Mary Bate, daughter of the late Rev. Julius Bate.—On board his Majesty's ship Port Mahon, off Brighton, Mr. Thomas Thorne, Surgeon of the vessel. He retired to rest about nine o'clock on Tuesday evening, having previously observed to his servant that he was ill, and desired him to procure an opium pill from the medicine chest, which the man accordingly did, and then left him. On the following morning, on entering his master's room, he found him quite dead and weltering in his blood; and to all appearance he had been so for several hours, as the blood had coagulated about him, and the body was cold and stiff. The wound was inflicted under the right ear, towards the windpipe, the latter not being injured; in length about four inches, and in depth quite as many. Coroner's verdict—*Lunacy*.—At *Bay-hill*, Pembury, Master Ovid Woodhams, second son of Mr. T. Woodhams. He lost his life by a gun going off, with its muzzle under his arm, whilst he was in the act of jumping on one of the summer-house seats in his father's garden to take aim at some birds; the contents lodged in his side, and terminated his existence after several days excruciating agony.

WARWICKSHIRE.

Married. At *Birmingham*, William Withering, Esq. of the Larches to Miss Lydia Rickards, only daughter of the late John Rickards, Esq.—At the *Friend's Meeting-house*, Mr. Paul Moon James, banker, to Miss Olivia Lloyd, daughter of Charles Lloyd, Esq.

Died. At *Bedworth-hall*, Mrs. Sarah Piercy, wife of William Piercy, Esq.

WESTMORELAND.

Died. At *Kendal*, aged 47, Mr. Thomas Hurd, wine merchant, one of the Aldermen of that borough.

WILTSHIRE.

WILTSHIRE.

Died. At *Marlborough*, the Rev. Mr. Edwards, master of the free grammar-school.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

By the report of the auditors of the Worcester General Infirmary, it appears, that from midsummer, 1807 to midsummer, 1808, the number of patients admitted was 1169, of whom 30 have died, and that since its first establishment in 1745, the number admitted amounts to 53,409. The receipts of last year amount to 1918*l.* 8*s.* 3½*d.* and the expenditure, (including the purchase of 400 three per cent consols.) 1831*l.* 9*s.* 4½*d.* Balance in hand 86*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* funded stock 3 per cent consols 8200. 3 per cent reduced annuities (arising from the Worcester Bread Charity in 1802) 200*l.*

Died. At *Worcester*, Mrs. Bulkeley, widow of Richard Bulkeley, Esq. Secretary of the province of Nova Scotia.—At *Chew-magna*, aged 74, Mrs. Philipps, wife of the Rev. Rowland Philipps, and relict of the late Henry Willoughby, Esq. of Northwick.—At *Shrawley*, the Rev. George Bourne, M. A. Fellow of Worcester College, Oxford, and vicar of Steeple Barton in the same county.

YORKSHIRE.

At the opening of the New Court of requests in Sheffield, several of the gentlemen who were nominated and had qualified as Commissioners, after surveying the state of the Goal in King-street, entered upon a subscription, which they conducted with such spirit and success among their private connexions, that they were enabled in a short time to liberate all the Low Court prisoners then in custody, against whom there were no less than a hundred and one warrants in train and in execution. This noble act was managed with so much promptitude, and so little ostentation, that it was scarcely known to the public at large until its effects had disclosed what had been done.

At Eglestone, near Barnard castle, on Monday, the 1st of August a most alarming storm of thunder and lightning came on in the afternoon, when an extremely heavy shower took place, which caused the water in Blackstone burn, Gate-beck, and Hill-beck, to overflow their boundaries, carrying away all the walls, hedges, bridges, and trees, that opposed its impetuosity. The smelting mills at Blackston sustained great damage; near 400 bings of ore, besides all the tools, barrows, &c. were swept away by the rapidity of the current. The loss is estimated at 2,000*l.* At another mill it swept away the wheel, axle-tree, bellows, and the whole of the refining-house; the axle-tree was found below Tees-bridge. The roads in several places were so broken up, that carriages could not proceed upon them. The storm fell most heavy upon the hills about Nemoor and Felltop, so that the corn did not suffer so much as might be expected. At Bedburn, where not a drop of rain fell, a dying-mill was washed away by the flood.

The Stock of the late Sir George Strickland, Bart. of Boynton, was lately sold by auction, and fetched uncommonly great sums. One cow was sold at the hitherto unprecedented price of 111*l.* 6*s.* another, thirteen years old sold for forty guineas. The whole produced nearly 2200*l.* although twenty head had been reserved by the family. After the sale, a bull belonging to Mr. George Coates, of Driffield, whose reputation as a breeder of stock is well known, was sold for the enormous sum of *five hundred guineas.*

Married. At *Beverley*, G. P. Drew, Esq. Major of the 45 foot, to Miss Harding, daughter of Henry Harding, Esq. of Harding Grove, Ireland.—At *Salton*, J. Snowball, Esq. of New Malton, to Miss Abbey, of Salton.—At *Leeds*, Mr. William Smith, eldest son of George Smith, Esq. banker, to Miss Burrows of Scotthall.—At *North Dalton*, Mr. J. Dowker, second son of John Dowker, Esq. of Salton, to Miss Elizabeth Buttle, daughter of William Buttle, Esq.—At *Kildwick*, Walter Skirrow, Esq. of Lincolns Inn London, to Miss Mary Anne Wainman, second daughter of William Wainman, Esq. of Carhead.

Died. At *Sutton*, upon Derwent, the Rev. John Sarrande, rector of that parish,

parish, and vicar of Bossal, and one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the East Riding.—At *Wakefield*, Mrs. Brooke, relict of William Brooke, Esq. At *Marsk*, in Cleveland, aged 83, Bartholomew Rudd, Esq.

WALES.

Married. At *Kidwelly*, Mr. William Sneed, son of the late Edward Sneed, Esq. of Swansea, to Miss Hatton, daughter of the late Mr. Hatton, of the bathing house.—At *Llanbadarn fawr*, Mr. D. Griffith, merchant, of Aberystwith, to Jane, second daughter of the late W. Jones, Esq. collector of the Customs at Llanelly.—At *Llantistan*, the Rev. R. B. Clough, to Miss Amelia Maria Price, third daughter of the late R. W. Price, Esq. of Rhiwlas, Merionethshire

Died. At *Brecon*, Thomas Williams, Esq. attorney.—At *Ely*, near Cardif, John Key, Esq. a man whose loss will be very generally felt, his good sense, good nature, and hospitality, having endeared him to a large circle of friends.—At *St. Ishmeal*, Caermarthenshire, Mrs. Williams, wife of the Rev. J. Williams.—At *Roberts Rest*, in the parish of St. Ishmeal, the Rev. Owen Tudor Brigstoke, senior Fellow of Jesus College Oxford, and rector of Kelymaeullwyd in the said county.

SCOTLAND.

The workmen employed in levelling the ground on the north side of the Nethergate, Dundee, where the houses have been lately pulled down, have found two gold rings of very curious and antique appearance, the handle of a sword, a piece of an old coat, partly embroidered with lace, and an immense number of human bones, supposed to be part of the remains of the unfortunate sufferers who fell when the town was taken and sacked by General Monk, during the protectorship of Oliver Cromwell.

The beautiful wooded bank, immediately opposite to Springfield paper-mill, lately gave way with a dreadful crash, into the river Esk, which runs at the bottom, and so completely choaked it up, that not a drop of water passed for several hours. The bank, which is about 200 feet in height, had discovered symptoms of agitation on the preceding day, and, for about an hour before it gave way, the agitation was extremely violent, and the trees were seen falling in all directions; but, when it began to move in a body it was awfully grand and terrific, and the noise was equal to the loudest thunder. The slip is supposed to have been occasioned by water lodged in the bank, which had loosened it from the bed.

Married. At *Edinburgh*, Joseph Gordon, Esq. W. S. to Miss Ann Clunes, youngest daughter of Gordon Clunes, Esq., of Crakaig.—John Pigot, Esq. younger, of Kilworth, to Miss Susan Smollet, daughter of the late Alexander Smollet, Esq., of Bonhill.—At *Ayton*, Lieut. Colonel Balfour, of Balbirnie, to Miss Eglantine Fordyce, daughter of John Fordyce, Esq.

Died. At *Edinburgh*, aged 56, Henry William Tytler, Esq. the translator of Callimachus.—Aged 87, John Bland, Esq. formerly one of the lessees, and many years treasurer of the Theatre Royal. This gentleman, (who was uncle to the celebrated Mrs. Jordan,) was of an antient family in Ireland, and seemed born to better fortune than he experienced. In early life he entered into the army as a cornet of dragoons, and carried the standard of his regiment at the battle of Dettingen; and if he had remained in the army, it is probable that his talents and family connections might have raised him into distinction; but he quitted the sword for the study of Coke upon Lyttleton, and in due time was called to the bar, from which he was, after no long trial, detached by eccentricity of manners, and an unconquerable partiality for the stage. Most of the provincial Theatres have exhibited him in the highest characters of the sock and buskin; but he was most at home in Sir Callaghan O'Brallaghan, Young Revel, and the Ghost in Hamlet. He used to relate, that he once went upon the stage to perform Othello, with his face *white*. His only support for several years had been a pension arising from the Edinburgh Theatre, and he was regularly transferred with that property, to every new possessor. In private life he was much esteemed, by an extensive

sive circle of respectable acquaintance: he was full of anecdote, good-natured, communicative, and had an odd and diverting humour in his narrations and remarks. When young, he was very eccentric in his manners, opinions, and phraseology; but in all his conduct through life, was no man's enemy but his own, by a want of that prudence which secures respect and and comfort for the decline of life: and with all his peculiarities, he was an honest man, a kind husband, an indulgent parent, and a steady friend.—At *Aberfeldie*, aged 96, Margaret Robinson. About her sixty-third year this woman became totally blind, not suddenly, or by any particular cause, but by a gradual decay of sight. In this state she remained fifteen years. In her seventy-eighth year she recovered her sight so well, that with the assistance of glasses, she was able to thread a needle, and to read. In the course of the next year her sight was so much improved, that she laid her glasses aside. From that time to her eighty-seventh year, she enjoyed her sight with as much clearness, as at any former period of her life; it then began a second time to fail, but was not totally lost at the time of her death. It is observable that she always retained her other faculties with undiminished vigour to the last.—At *Buchlivie*, aged 76, in the fortieth year of his ministry, the Rev. John France, minister of the Associate congregation.—At *Blackwood*, William Copland, Esq. of Colliston.—At *Clackmanan*, Mrs. Frances Hay, relict of John Edmonstone, Esq. of Cambuswallace.—At *Dumfries*, aged 92, John Graham, Esq. of Mossknow.—At *Elgin*, aged 82, Mrs. Grant.—At *Glasgow*, Mrs. Agnes Marshall, wife of Campbell Douglas, Esq.—At *Berwick*, James Morrison, an old pensioner. He was, for his gallant behaviour at the battle of Minden, offered a pair of colours, which he refused, never having learned to write. He was in the American war, and was there much distinguished for his bravery.—At *Kennet*, Alexander Bruce, Esq. The death of this amiable and respectable man will be severely felt, not only by a numerous infant family, but by that whole district of country in which he resided. It falls to the lot only of very few men to be placed in situations which call forth the exertion of splendid talents; but the virtues which adorn a private station are within the reach of every individual. Mr. Bruce spent the earlier part of his life at Canton, in the service of the Honourable East India Company, from whom he received the most flattering marks of approbation. Since his return to his paternal estate, he has devoted himself with unremitting assiduity, to the faithful discharge of the duties of a country gentleman; important at all times, but doubly arduous and important in times like these. His conduct, as a public magistrate, though unassuming, was firm and steady, and uniformly upright. He was, at no time, led away by the opinions of innovating men, or overawed by the aspect of the turbulent and seditious. He had been early taught indeed by the best of fathers (the late Lord Kennet) to respect and reverence both the civil and religious institutions of his country; and he seems never to have forgotten the lessons of his youth. He was a regular attendant on all the public ordinances of religion; and has left to his children the most valuable of all legacies—the precious example of the happy influence which these produced upon his mind. He was an affectionate husband, a kind parent, and steady friend: and, it is well known, that his charity to the poor, on many occasions, even bordered on profusion.—At *Barbadoes*, Robert Dalrymple, Esq. son of the late David Dalrymple, of Westhall, one of the Senators of the College of Justice.

IRELAND.

Married. At *Dublin*, Viscount Lismore, to Lady Eleanor Butler, sister to the Earl of Ormond.—Herberet Gillman, of Eniskean, Esq. to Miss Bennett, eldest daughter of Francis Bennett, Esq. of Bennetts Grove, Cork.—Sir Edward Ryan, Knight of the Imperial Military order of Maria Theresa, and Lieut. Colonel in his Majesty's service, to Miss Mildred Hamilton Rowan, daughter of Archibald Hamilton Rowan, Esq. of Killileagh Castle, county of Down.—Hardinge Giffard, Esq. of Fitzwilliam street, to Miss Harriet Pennell, second daughter of Lovell Pennell, Esq. of Baggott Street.—At *Cork*, the Rev. John Leslie,

Leslie, Dean of Cork, to Miss S. Lawrence, second daughter of the Lord Bishop of Cork, and Ross.—At *Movedy*, in the County of Cork, Captain Thorne, of his Majesty's 8th Garrison Battalion, to Miss Coppinger, daughter of Thomas Coppinger, Esq.—At *Tralee*, Francis Walker, Esq. of Milltown in Kerry, to Miss M. Blenerhasset, fourth daughter of Richard Blenerhasset, of Bally M'Prior, Esq.

Died. At *Dublin*, the Right Hon. John Thomas Earl of Clanricarde, General in the army, Colonel of the 66th regt. Governor of Hull, and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Galway. Few men are more deservedly regretted than his Lordship, descended from an illustrious line of ancestors, celebrated for their unshaken loyalty to their sovereign, and attachment to the liberties of their country. The first Marquis of Clanricarde, in the reign of Charles I. and II. was, perhaps, as able and distinguished a loyalist as that æra, so celebrated for great men, produced. His Lordship, had he lived until next month, would have attained his 64th year. He married Eliza, daughter of Sir Thomas Burke, Bart. of Marble-hill, in the county of Galway, and is succeeded in his title and estates by his son Ulick John, now Lord Dunkellyn, now in his seventh year. He has also left two daughters; and in the year 1800, his Majesty was pleased to grant, that in default of male issue, the Earl's eldest daughter should inherit the title, and be a Countess in her own right.—Aged 80, Mrs. Watson, of Abbey-street, relict of Joseph Watson, Esq. of Bettyville, in the county of Dublin.—Mrs. Ford, wife of —— Ford, Esq. of the county of Down, and eldest daughter of the late Right Hon. William Brownlow. She went in apparently perfect health to the rout of Mrs. Loftus Tottenham. While seated at the card-table, she was seized with a sudden indisposition, and being near her accouchment of her twenty-first child, considerable alarm was excited. Mrs. Tottenham offered every accommodation her house afforded; but Mrs. Ford, finding herself much recovered, yielded to the natural impulse of wishing to be in her own house on such an occasion, and was conveyed into her coach, accompanied by her sister, the Countess of Powerscourt, and her son; but before she arrived at home the vital spark had flown.—At *Cork*, Richard Donovan, Esq. surveyor of the Hamilton quarantine barge.—At *Derry*, Sir Andrew Ferguson. Returning homeward, after having dined in the neighbourhood, and driving with incautious rapidity over a bridge wanting some repairs, the vehicle was unfortunately overturned, and Sir Andrew precipitated from it with such fatal violence, that he lived but till his arrival at his own residence. His son, by whom he was accompanied in the carriage, escaped without injury.

FOREIGN OCCURRENCES.

Premature Erudition.—An article in the foreign journals, under the head of Mersburgh, June 10, says: "A distinguished professor in one of our colleges being desirous to excite emulation among his pupils, brought before them a child of only seven years and ten months. He listened with attention to the Greek lesson which the professor was expounding, and which he desired the child to go on with. All his astonished pupils heard the child construe, to the satisfaction of every one, a passage in Plutarch with which he was previously unacquainted, and give every explanation that could be required. Cæsar's Commentaries were next handed him, and he translated, readily and distinctly, sentences which had puzzled the youths around him. In the course of his translating, he was also examined on the parts of speech, concord, syntax, &c. which he analysed and explained with a facility and accuracy which excited the astonishment of all who were present. He construed, likewise, an Italian book, which one of the company had brought with him, and conversed familiarly in that language. The sequel of the conversation proved his extensive knowledge in history, geography, &c. Fortunately for this prodigy of learning, he is well formed, and enjoys perfect health. He possesses all the playfulness, all the modesty and simplicity of a child of his tender years, and is not even conscious

conscious that he is the object of universal admiration. His father is the celebrated Doctor Charles Wette, minister of Lochan, near Halle, who unfortunately refuses to communicate the method (peculiar to himself) which he adopted to instruct a child who resembles Heincken and Baratier, the prodigies of their times. It is a well-attested fact, that the former excelled in knowledge at the tender age of two years, and that he died before he had completed his fourth. Baratier, after having astonished Europe by the variety and extent of his acquirements at a very early period, died, apparently of old age, before he attained his nineteenth year.

The General Conference of the American Methodists met at Baltimore on the 6th of June; present 128 members. By the returns of last year, the society consisted of 144,590 members. The returns of this year are, 121,687 whites, and 30,308 coloured; making a total of 151,995 members, and an increase during that period of 7,405. The number of itinerant members in the connection at present amounts to 642.

The town of Falmouth, in Jamaica, has suffered severely from a dreadful fire. It began in the center of Church-street, and, in defiance of all human exertion, soon became general on both sides the street, the greater part of which is burnt down. The custom-house, and many houses in Cornwall and other streets were burnt down, but the principal loss has been in the destruction of the greater part of Market-street, one of the best in the West Indies, all of which, stored with goods of the late importation, were entirely consumed.

Married. At the *Cape of Good Hope*, Charles Hughes, Esq. of the naval establishment, to Mary, daughter of R. T. Raynes, Esq. paymaster of the 60th regiment.

Died. At *Vienna*, Prince Diedrichestien-Proskau-Leslie, at the advanced age of 80 years.—At *Malta*, Alfonso, Count de Beaujolais, youngest of the three sons of the late celebrated Philip Egalite, Duke of Orleans. He was scarcely 29 years of age, and had not distinguished himself by any actions of merit. It is said that his dissolution was accelerated by his irregularities. The Duke de Montpensier, Anthony Philip, second of the sons of Egalite, died only about a year ago. He was a prince of some talents, in particular for painting; in which art he was such a proficient, that it was believed he might have acquired both reputation and subsistence by his performances in that art, if he had been driven to the necessity of practising it for support. The Duke de Montpensier, and his brother, the Count de Beaujolais, were only of the age of fourteen and twelve, when the French revolution broke out in 1789. On the execution of their father, in 1793, they were shut up, by order of the National Assembly, in the fort of Notre Dame de la Garde, near Marseilles. In an attempt to effect his escape from the fortress, the Duke de Montpensier fell and fractured his leg. Their elder brother, the Duke de Chartres, now Duke of Orleans, having quitted France, previous to his father's imprisonment and death, wandered over a large part of Europe. Born to the greatest succession of any subject in the world, he saw himself deprived of it, as well as of his high rank, and collateral right to the crown of France, in consequence of a revolution in which his father acted a conspicuous part. To such distress was he even reduced, about the year 1796, or 1797, as to have actually kept a school at Zurich, in Switzerland, for some time. Like the young Dionysius, who, after his expulsion and exile from Syracuse, was compelled, according to Cicero, to have recourse to a similar expedient at Corinth. The present Duke of Orleans is said to be a man of talents, on whom adversity, that rugged nurse, has not been lost. After quitting Switzerland, he crossed the Atlantic, to St. Domingo, and on his return from the West Indies, he travelled not only over the northern kingdoms of Europe, particularly Sweden, but he followed the track of Maupertuis to Tornea, in Lapland. He even penetrated beyond Tornea, almost to the North Cape, and returned back by Drontheim, to Christiana, the capital of Norway, from whence he reached Copenhagen. The present Duke of Orleans is not yet thirty-five years old. His health is said to be in a precarious state. He is the last of that branch of the illustrious house of Bourbon; is descended from Louis XIII. and Anne of Austria, by Philip, younger brother of Louis XIV. who was the father of the famous Regent Duke, so well known by his talents

talents and his debaucheries!—At *Washington*, Jacob Crowninshield, Esq. Member of the House of Representatives of the United States from Massachusetts.—At *Fort Augusta*, near Kingston, Jamaica, on the 27th of May, Major Darley and Lieutenant Ellis, of the 2d West India regt. The regiment had paraded at the accustomed hour in the morning on the beach, about three hundred yards from the glacis leading to Port Henderson. In the fort fifty-four recruits were left to be drilled by a black sergeant. They were principally of the Chamba and Koromantyn nations, purchased a few months since, to serve in his Majesty's Colonial Corps: forty-six of them were attached to the 2d, and eight to the 5th West India regiments. The men on the beach had not been long under arms, when a terrible war-whoop was heard, and the recruits were observed to rush out of the fort, and approach near the left of the regiment. Lieutenant and Adjutant Ellis instantly rode towards them, to learn the reason of the noise: he had scarce reached the spot, before he was knocked off his horse with the but-end of one of their fire-locks, and received several wounds about his head and body with their bayonets, of which he almost instantly died. Major Darley, anxious also to know what occasioned the tumult, repaired directly thither; unhappily for him, he experienced a fate nearly similar. In consequence of these circumstances, the officers dispatched a serjeant to the fort for ammunition, while some of them flew to Major Darley's assistance; he was taken to his apartments, and languished about an hour, when he expired. The ammunition having arrived, the men were directed to load, and fire on the mutineers, which was promptly obeyed, when fourteen of them fell dead, five were wounded, and two taken prisoners; twenty-one, who did not appear to be active in the mutiny, instantly surrendered, without the smallest resistance. The remainder being dismayed, ran off to secret themselves in the mangroves and brush-wood, and were completely subdued, or shot, by detachments of the regiment sent in pursuit of them. No other reason was assigned for their improper conduct by those taken, than that they had been too repeatedly drilled, and that they wished to return to their country. Sixteen of the offenders were brought to a court martial; fifteen were found guilty, and sentenced to death. Seven of them were afterwards shot, and the rest were respited.—In the *Indian Seas*, Capt. Hardinge, of his Majesty's ship St. Fiorenzo. On the 6th of May he fell in with and attacked the Piedmontaise French frigate, and kept up the engagement for three days, on the last of which he was killed by a grape-shot. The Piedmontaise shortly afterwards struck her colours. She was commanded by Monsieur Eprou, Capitain de Vaisseau; mounted 50 guns, long 18-pounders on her main-deck, and 36-pound carronades on her quarter-deck. She had 336 Frenchmen on board, and near 200 lascars, and sailed from the Mauritius on the 30th of Dec. In the action she had 48 men killed, and 112 wounded; the St. Fiorenzo had 13 killed and 25 wounded.—That desperate French officer, Moreau, who was the second Captain in the Piedmontaise, is the man who stabbed Captain Larkins, after the Capture of the Warren Hastings, and whom Sir Edward Pellew denounced in his public orders to the fleet as a proper object of vengeance, if ever he should be taken. Moreau conducted himself in a furious manner during the engagement He would not suffer the ship to strike, and declared he would never be taken by the English alive. At last, he discharged his pistols into his own body, and was thrown overboard, at his request, before he was dead. By the death of Capt. Hardinge, his country has lost a most deserving officer, and her flag is deprived of one of its ablest supporters. Conspicuous as are the names upon our naval list, it would have been difficult to have selected from it an individual of greater promise, or one who for his standing was more eminently distinguished. Though allied to fortune, rank, and power, he owed to neither the high rank he attained; but nobly foregoing the aid of fortuitous advantages, he raised a splendid edifice of fame upon the proud basis of his own deserts. When a boy, he served with the highest credit to himself in the batteries at Toulon, and at the different sieges in the island of Corsica: he was a midshipman on board the *Diadem* at the capture of *Le Ca Ira* and *Le Censeur*; and in the year 1798, after suffering shipwreck on the Barbary coast, he joined Sir Sidney Smith on the shores of Syria, and had the ho-

nour of fighting by his side during the memorable defence of Acre. On his return from thence he was received on board Lord Nelson's ship the *Foudroyant*, and, after assisting in her celebrated battle with *Le Guillaume Tell*, was promoted to a lieutenancy. At the commencement of the present war, we find him commanding the *Terror* bomb; but as she was nearly destroyed at the bombardment of Granville, he was appointed to the *Scorpion* as soon as he returned into port. In that sloop, upon the coast of Holland, he executed one of the boldest enterprizes that ever graced our naval annals. In conjunction with Capt. Pelly, of the *Beaver*, he carried the ships boats through an intricate and dangerous navigation into the Vlie stream, where he boarded the *Atalante* of 20 guns, and, in spite of a desperate resistance, bore her out in defiance of the batteries and a large corvette which lay at anchor on the spot. For this exploit he and Captain Pelly were made Post Captains. Soon after this he quitted his native land never to revisit it again. He sailed to the East Indies, where during three years he exerted himself unceasingly for the benefit of his country; there, in one of the most obstinate and sanguinary conflicts upon record, at the post of danger and in the arms of victory, he terminated an honourable and glorious life, without stain and without reproach. In private life he was a sincere friend, a dutiful son, and a most affectionate brother. In his profession he was bold, active, and enterprizing; his courage and his capacity went hand in hand; and that which he had the heart to plan he had also the heart to execute This is a faint but faithful sketch: it is traced by one who knew him well, by one who loved him living, and reveres him dead. As he fell at the early age of twenty-six, it is astonishing that he should have had so many opportunities of distinguishing himself; but his career was brilliant, though evanescent; and its course, like that of the shooting meteor, is marked by the exhalations which gleam along its tract.

RETROSPECT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Spain, during the last month, has continued to be the great object of interest to this country, and, doubtless, to all Europe, as far as her condition has transpired; and her glorious exertions have been crowned with a success equal to the most sanguine expectations that the well-wishers to her freedom and independence could have formed.

The French army in Valencia, consisting of 19 or 20,000 men, under General Moncey, has been entirely defeated, the General himself made prisoner, and it is said that only about 1200 escaped and took the road to Madrid.

The reduction of Dupont's corps, which was an object of the highest importance, has at length been effected. The Spanish General Castanos having resolved that attacks should be made upon it while occupying the towns of Andujar and Baylen, Major-General Reding, on July 19th, engaged the division commanded by Dupont himself, and after a severe action, remained master of the field. Dupont then sent an aide-de-camp to treat on a capitulation with General Castanos; but in the meantime General Wedel, who had advanced with a reinforcement to the French from Madrid, made a treacherous attack upon Reding's division, and took a battalion prisoners. The situation of the French, however, being hopeless, a negotiation was concluded on the 20th, by which Dupont's troops, to the number of 8000, surrendered prisoners of war; and it was agreed that Wedel's detachment, amounting to 6000, should deliver up their arms, and be marched to Cadiz, in order for their embarkation for

for Rochefort. The French in the previous actions lost 3000 in killed and wounded; the Spaniards about 1200. Not a Frenchman in arms was left in Andalusia.

The news of this event caused a great sensation at Madrid, into which capital Joseph Bonaparte had made a splendid entry on July 20th, after traversing with no considerable escort a tract possessed by the French arms. His situation amidst a people who abhorred his usurped sway, and in danger of being intercepted by a victorious foe, did not admit of long deliberation; and the French began their retreat from Madrid on July 29th; Joseph himself, with the remainder, proceeded for Segovia on the 31st, after pillaging the royal palaces and the treasury, and carrying off all the artillery and ammunition which they had means of conveying. They were followed by all the Spanish ministers who had acted under French authority, and by all the French settled in Madrid. With such disgraceful circumstances terminates, it is to be hoped, the Spanish reign of this mock-monarch!

Intelligence has just arrived of the accession of the province of Biscay to the patriotic confederacy.

Notwithstanding the efforts of French despotism to conceal from the continent of Europe the eventful transactions passing in Spain, the troops of that nation quartered in Denmark at length obtained intelligence of the heroic resistance of their countrymen, and enthusiastically embraced their cause. Those in Zealand, though in the midst of the French and their allies, formed round their colours, and on their knees swore fidelity to their country. They fired on the French General who commanded them, and killed his aide-de-camp; but were surrounded and disarmed. The Spaniards in Funen, to the number of 6000, under the Marquis de la Romana, took possession of Nyborg, the garrison of which submitted; but two Danish armed vessels barring the harbour, it was necessary for Rear-admiral Keats, who was posted in the Great Belt, to order them to be attacked and taken. The troops under Romana, joined by near a thousand more who escaped from Jutland, were conveyed under the protection of the English fleet, on August 13, to the isle of Langeland, where 1000 had already been landed to strengthen the Spanish post there; so that at least 8000 of the veterans of Spain have liberated themselves, and are waiting for their transportation to their own country, where they will be a valuable accession to the patriot army. The last return of Spaniards escaped from Funen states them at upwards of 9800.

As there now appears no possibility of reinforcing the French at Lisbon under Junot, it is scarcely to be doubted, that the English under General Wellesley, who have disembarked in Portugal, in conjunction with the Portuguese, will bring that officer to a surrender, though his force is considerable, and he is said to be strongly posted. News from that quarter is impatiently expected.

That so little vigour has hitherto been shown by the French Emperor in support of his daring usurpation of the Spanish throne, has probably occasioned general surprize; and it cannot be doubted, that the events which have taken place were entirely out of his calculation. At the same time, as one of his latest acts has been to elevate to the throne of Naples his brother-in law Murat, in the place of Joseph Bonaparte, it appears as if he were still determined to enforce his nomination of the latter to the crown of Spain.

At

At present, however, his attention seems chiefly occupied in another quarter, and the military preparations of Austria have occasioned extraordinary movements among the French and allied troops in Germany and its frontiers. The confederation of the Rhine, Napoleon's great political work, has been called upon to furnish its quota; and forces are rigorously levying in Poland. The continent is anxiously looking to an impending storm which may possibly again change the whole face of Europe.

The war in the North proceeds languidly, with few important events. The Russians seem gradually retreating from the northern part of Finland, where they have sustained some losses. An engagement between the flotillas of the two powers proved to the disadvantage of the Swedes, who were inferior in force. The town of Wasa has been barbarously pillaged by the Russians.

In the United States of America, the embargo still continues, and many of those before engaged in a maritime life are said to have quietly employed themselves in agricultural pursuits. It cannot, however, be supposed that the decided commercial character of the nation will undergo a speedy change; and the termination of this system of policy, however expedient as a temporary measure, is doubtless impatiently expected by the inhabitants of the sea ports.

In March last, the French frigate Piedmontaise, of 50 guns, including carronades, being descried off Ceylon by the St. Fiorenzo, English frigate, a chace was made by the latter, which continued with a running fight to the third day, when the French ship was brought to close action, and captured after a severe combat, in which 160 of their crew were killed or wounded. The loss on the part of the English was 38 killed and wounded, including the gallant commander, Captain Hardinge.

The domestic politics of the month have afforded nothing interesting. Addresses have been voted to his Majesty from some counties and corporate bodies, expressing entire concurrence in the measures taken to support the Spanish cause, and making the most loyal and zealous offers of future aid. As the nation seems perfectly unanimous in this point, the subject of these addresses can apparently be nothing more than to give a testimony of satisfaction with the conduct of the present administration.

MONTHLY COMMERCIAL REPORT.

Last month has been marked by the arrival of no fewer than three great fleets of merchantmen: first, the Leeward Island fleet; next, the East India; and, lastly, the Jamaica fleet. The East India commerce suffers like other branches, from the interruption of our intercourse with the continent, although this interruption is infinitely more injurious to the subjects of Bonaparte than to us. The article of indigo, for example, sells at present in Holland for 40s. per lb. which is four times its price here.

Russia, being free from the presence of French troops, has never actually suspended her intercourse with this country. The Emperor had, indeed, complied with Bonaparte's urgency in prohibiting all traffic even with neutrals, but his officers do not seem to have been instructed to act up to the rigour of the law. British goods have been admitted in neutral ships, and Russian goods exported through the same channel. Nor is it to be expected that any nation possessing a particle of independence would submit to a complete exclusion of a branch of commerce so essential to its prosperity as that of England to Russia.

sia. Prussia being obliged to receive the soldiers of the Usurper into her harbours, cannot permit the ingress or egress of a single vessel without the consent of the French commanders; so that the only channel of admission, in her case, must be by addressing *a valuable consideration* to these gentlemen. How far this is practicable in the present instance we do not pretend to say; but our readers may form some idea of Gallic morality on being told, that in the year 1797, a transaction of this kind took place on the part of a state once eminent for commercial greatness, namely, the republic of Venice, with no less a personage than the Director *Barras*. The French army was in the heart of the Venetian territory, and threatened a complete revolution; but the Venetian ambassador at Paris was given to understand that the Directory were divided in opinion, that the casting vote rested with Barras, and that it remained with his constituents to influence it. The price was fixed, and the amount of 700,000 livres (about 30,000l. sterling) was paid in bills on Venice at thirty days date. It happened, however, either from an irregularity in the payment of the bills, or from some other cause, that Barras withdrew his support, and Venice was transferred to Austria.

Our gallant allies, the Spaniards, have been hitherto so much occupied with military operations, as to have little leisure for trade. Our merchants, however, anticipate a rich harvest in due season both in that quarter and Portugal, and a still richer one in Spanish America. An open intercourse between Spanish America and Great Britain would be one of the greatest blessings that could distinguish any æra; but it would in the present age be a most opportune and happy alleviation of the calamities of long and bitter hostility. These delightful colonies require only the security of property and the freedom of commerce to become an opulent and powerful empire. The expedition which has gone to Portugal, under Sir Arthur Wellesley, was, as we have already stated, collected at Cork for the purpose of proceeding to Caraccas along with General Miranda. There could have been little doubt of its success, had our object been as it ought, the emancipation of Caraccas; but as this liberal plan would have experienced considerable opposition among ourselves, it is matter of great satisfaction that a favourable result is likely to be produced without our interference.

The basis of our commercial arrangements with the Spaniards in regard to their American possessions may be very simple. We require not the aid of exclusive privileges, or of restrictions on other countries. Open the field of competition to British industry, and British industry will not fail to win the prize. What nation can match our manufacturers, our merchants, our navigators? All that we have occasion to stipulate is, exemption from custom-house oppressions, and the establishment of a code of mercantile law which may oblige the debtor to pay his creditor. At present this is by no means the case. The delay and uncertainty of the Spanish law is endless, and the creditor has scarcely any power over his debtor. Even in Trinidad this abuse is allowed to continue, although every thing indicates that we consider that island a permanent appendage to our empire.

While we are on the subject of Spanish colonial law, it may not be amiss to advert to the imperfections of our own code. The grand principle of our colonial law (or, as we are fond of terming it, its policy) is to afford time to the debtor against his creditor; that is, the law obliges the debtor to give the creditor security, and to pay him interest; but it opposes various delays to the actual assumption of that security by the creditor, under the impression, that with the indulgence of time, the debtor will be better able to pay. Now this principle might have been very just in the earliest stages of colonial enterprize, when capital was very scarce, profits very high, and the chief part of the land unoccupied. But matters are now changed. The land in several British islands is fully cultivated, and profits are abundantly slow, or rather, during these nine years there have hardly been any profits whatever. Yet such is the reluctance of mankind to forego hope, and to cling to the property they possess, that many planters have continued to struggle on under heavy debts which have been yearly on the increase, rather than adopt at once the decisive step

of

of surrendering their effects to their creditors. If we look around the list of our merchants at home, we shall find many eminent names who in early life were unfortunate, but who, by a timely relinquishment of hopeless concerns, merited the approbation of their creditors, and set themselves at freedom for exertion in a more auspicious line. Such suspensions, however, never almost take place too soon—on the contrary, the common regret both of the creditor and of the debtor is, that they did not take place sooner: in short, so powerful is hope, so strong the dread of exposure, that in nine cases out of ten a suspension of payment is delayed to the latest possible moment. Now our objection to the colonial law is, that it favours this natural propensity to delay; that it wards off the necessity of suspending payment, and leaves a class of men, naturally sanguine, in captivity to their own illusions. Hence many an industrious planter is doomed to unprofitable toil; many a merchant is deterred from lending money on security of so doubtful recovery; and the general effect of the law is probably to retard that improvement which it was meant to advance. The remedy we should propose would be an enquiry, under the direction of Government, into the nature and operation of colonial law, and the result of this enquiry would in all probability be to recommend the assimilation of our colonial regulations to those at home.

Stocks have been considerably lower during last month than before, owing to the belief of a continental war, and of the consequent necessity of a loan. Coffee continues low in price, a sure proof that our communication with Germany and Holland labours under heavy restrictions. Sugar is also very low, and the distillers have not yet appeared in the market. Great quantities of gunpowder have been exported to Spain, and favourably sold. A small East India fleet is collecting at Portsmouth, and expected to sail early in the present month. The West India convoy will not probably sail till November.

PRICE OF STOCKS.

Bank Stock	240
India Stock	180
3 per Cent. reduced	67 $6\frac{3}{4}$
3 per Cent. Cons.	$66\frac{1}{8}\ \frac{3}{8}\ \frac{1}{8}$
4 per Cent. Cons.	$83\ \frac{1}{4}\ \frac{1}{8}$
5 per Cent. Ann.	$98\frac{1}{4}\ \frac{1}{8}$
Bank Long Annuities	$19\frac{5}{8}$ 11-16
Imperial 2 per cent. Ann.	66 $5\frac{7}{8}$
Ditto Annuities	7 $\frac{5}{8}$
Omnium	$\frac{1}{4}\ \frac{1}{2}$ d.
Exchequer Bills	3 7 p.
Consols for Ac.	$66\frac{1}{8}\ \frac{1}{8}$

The Average Prices of Navigable Canal Shares, Dock Stock, Fire Office Shares, &c. in AUG 1808; *at the Office of Mr. Scott, 28, New Bridge-street, London.*

Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, 655l. per share, dividing 42l. per ann. nett.—*Leeds and Liverpool*, 178l. dividing 8l. per ann nett.—*Grand Junction*, 127l. to 132l.; the last half-yearly dividend was 2l.—*Leicestershire and Northamptonshire Union Canal*, 35l. for 96l. paid.—*Huddersfield*, 18l. per share.—*Kennet and Avon*, 24l.—*Ellesmere*, 54l.—*West India Dock Stock*, 156l. per cent. dividing 10l. per cent. nett.—*East India Dock*, 120l. per cent., dividing 5l. per cent.—*London Dock*, 116l. per cent., dividing 5½l. per cent.—*East London Water Works*, 50l. to 52l. 10s. per share premium.—*West Middlesex ditto*, 18l. to 21l. per share premium.—*Globe Insurance*, 116l. per cent.—*Albion ditto*, at par to 2l. per cent. premium.

AGRICULTURAL

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR AUGUST, 1808.

With the exception of beans, harvest may now be looked on as completed in all the forward districts of England and Wales, and in many of Scotland, unless in particular places, where hands have been scarce: this, we fear, has been the case in Lincolnshire to a considerable degree; but the weather has been throughout so favourable, that the above disadvantage has not been felt as it would have been in a catching season.

The most important crop, the wheat, is far the most abundant, and will, in all probability, exceed the last year's crop in quantity, great as that was, although it will be inferior in quality. As we long since warned the public, the repeated blights will have occasioned a considerable quantity of smutty wheat; and, indeed, most of the wheats in the maritime districts will be, to a certain degree, discoloured: the dinginess, however, is often confined to the chaff and straw. There will also be a quantity of shrivelled, *troughy*, or withered wheat —the consequence of drought and blight. For reasons which cannot be given here, the disease may, with more propriety, be styled blight than mildew; the latter being the effect of the former. Let those farmers who steep their wheat with a view of preventing smut, now take notice, that, without doubt, more than nine-tenths of the wheat sown in England last year and the present spring were *brined, limed, and steeped*, and generally with very strong and long-continued steeps. On this head, and on the diseases of vegetables, we refer the farming reader to Mr. Lawrence's New Farmer's Calendar, 5th edition.

We have now harvested THE THIRD successive large crop of wheat—a rare and fortunate occurrence. Barley is next in point of quantity, and promises well in respect to quality. Rye follows barley. Oats will scarcely reach an average crop any where excepting in the fens, where they are large; in some counties not more than half a crop. Beans will be a middling crop, and pease a bad one, although not equally so as last year. Potatoes and hops abundant, although the latter have certainly suffered from the drought in many particular spots. A great fruit season, particularly of all the useful kinds. The second sowings of turnips planted well, but the late easterly winds have affected them. After-grass and latter hay, as much as could be expected.

Little to be said on live stock—in great plenty, and selling at good prices. Good pigs dear, and wool lower.

Smithfield. Beef, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. Mutton, 5s. to 5s. 8d. Lamb, 6s. to 7s. Veal, 5s. to 7s. Pork, 5s. to 6s. 4d. Bacon, 6s. 6d. to 7s. Irish do. 5s. 8d. to 6s. Fat, 5s. to 5s. 4d.

FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

The harvest near the metropolis and in the Midland counties is nearly finished and well got together; the rain we then had only impeding the business, without doing any damage to the crops, which were strong and abundant, and the grain of good quality. Beans prove a middling crop on very strong lands; and, on some hot dry soils, pease suffered much from the want of some seasonable rains when in blossom, and in many places will not yield more than half a crop. Seed-clover promises to be well headed, and where the second crop was mown for hay, turned out a fair swath. Turnips in general, where well managed, appear fine and flourishing; those sown on the pea etches look well; and many acres of wheat stubbles have also been recently sown for spring feed for ewes and Lambs.

The winter crops of potatoes are very promising, and as a great breadth of land was planted this spring, an abundance of that truly useful root may be expected.

Since the plentiful rains we have recently experienced, the pastures and eddishes have grown considerably, and now afford excellent keep.

The prices of lean stock, both sheep and beasts, have considerably advanced, being much in request.

Young

Young fresh horses continue to sell well; and in the pig markets there is a great demand for small stores to turn into the stubbles, and the larger sort to feed for pork.

The crops of hops in Kent and Surrey are very fine and promising. Fruit of every kind in the greatest plenty.

PRICE OF GRAIN.

	ENGLAND AND WALES.		SCOTLAND.	
	s.	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*
Wheat	81	3	77	9
Rye	50	10	64	0
Barley	44	4	48	11
Oats	38	2	42	5
Beans	63	11	70	8
Pease	68	4	71	3
Oatmeal	50	11	35	8
Bigg	—	—	39	0

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The following pieces are left on return at Messrs. Longman and Co.

Prose.—*To the Society, &c. R. R. W. R. Lucian's Account of Peregrinus. Another Word for Philosophy. On Newspapers. Ship of Fools, &c. Remarks on the Monthly Review. MSS. copied in France. N. Eros. Johannes in doctus. P. A. P. A. Z. F. P.*

Verse.—*J. H. Sonnet, J. G. Decius, Psalm 1. Absence. Conquest of Rome. Juvenis. Ruricola. T. C. S. P. B. W. Sailor's Adieu. Mountain Peasant. Spirit of the Moat. E. W. H. Old Man and Fly. Midnight. M. W.*